

Social and Economic Factors in Literacy and Education in Rural India

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In what way do education and the social structure act and inter-act on each other?

What is the role of such factors as caste, class and rural-urban residence in the utilisation of educational opportunities?

How effective is education as a promoter of social change?

These are crucial questions in educational planning. Answers to them can be sought only through empirical studies.

The village surveys and resurveys being conducted by the Agricultural Economics Research Centres in different parts of the country furnish much useful data on education and literacy.

in attempt is made below to study the extent and pattern of literacy and education among different castes and economic groups in 12 villages of U P surveyed during 1958-60 by the Agricultural Economics Research Centre, University of Delhi.

SINCE the villages were selected purposively, the surveys derive their significance mainly as case studies illustrating certain relationships between relevant variables in respect of the problem under study. In these village surveys, a literate person has been defined as one who possesses the ability to read and write. The total population of these villages is 7,991. This includes 471 persons who have migrated outside these villages either for education or for work and whose families—parents or wife and children—reside in these villages. As literacy and education constitute an important cause of migration, inclusion of this population is essential in a study of the pattern of literacy and education in rural areas. Following the general practice, the population in the age group 0-4 has been omitted for computing the literacy ratios. The population of age 5 and above comprised 6,761 persons.

The percentage of literates among different age groups and sexes in the 12 villages is as given below:¹

Age Group	Males	Females	Total
5-14	33.3	10.6	22.7
15-24	35.6	6.1	22.0
25-64	22.6	3.8	14.0
65 & over	10.3	2.8	6.5
All	28.2	6.4	18.1

It can be seen that the percentage of literates is generally much higher among males than among females. Similarly, the proportion of literates in the age-groups 5-14 and 15-24 is higher than in the other age groups.

This suggests that the rural population has taken to literacy only recently and the older generation consists mostly of illiterate persons. Illiteracy is by and large predominant in the higher age groups.

Caste and Communal Groups

With a view of studying the pattern of literacy among different castes and communities, these have been grouped into 9 categories.

- (i) Brahmins and other high caste Hindus
- (ii) (a) Cultivating castes (high)
b) Cultivating castes (low)
- (iii) (a) Artisan castes (high)
b) Artisan castes (low)
- (iv) Backward and scheduled castes
- (v) (a) Muslims (non-functional)
b) Muslims (functional)
- (vi) Christians

The castes and communities included in each group are given in Appendix A and the population of age 5 and above in each group is given

in Appendix B. Table I shows the percentage of literates among the various caste and community groups.

It can be seen from the table that the percentage of literates is significantly higher for the both males and females among the Brahmins and other high caste Hindus than among other groups. The lowest percentage of literacy is among Backward and Scheduled castes. As Christians constitute a small group of only 3 persons, no significant conclusions can be drawn about that group. The literacy rate among

¹ It is interesting to note that inspite of the extremely limited usefulness of a case study from the point of view of furnishing reliable estimates, the overall literacy rate computed for these villages compares well with the Census (1961) data for rural U P. The percentage of literates among males, females and the total population works out to be 28.2, 6.4 and 18.1 respectively from our data while the corresponding rates based on the Census (1961) are 23.75, 4.16 and 14.34 respectively.

Table I : Percentage of Literates Among Different Castes and Communities

Caste Group	Males	Females	Total
(i) Brahmins & other high caste Hindus	62.7	16.9	42.0
(ii) Cultivating castes	29.9	8.7	20.6
a High	33.5	12.4	24.2
b Low	23.6	2.3	14.2
(iii) Artisans Castes	24.9	3.9	15.0
a High	20.6	3.8	15.5
b Low	24.0	3.9	14.8
(iv) Backward and Scheduled castes	16.5	1.4	9.5
(v) Muslims	27.8	6.8	17.9
a Non functional	30.7	9.9	21.0
b Functional	22.9	2.0	12.9
(vi) Christians	50.0	0.0	33.3
All	28.2	6.4	18.1

Muslims is higher than among Hindu artisans and backward and scheduled castes. It is interesting to observe that as between the cultivating castes and the artisan castes, the percentage of literates is significantly high among the cultivating castes than among the artisan castes. Further, as between the high-status and the low-status cultivating castes, literacy percentage is higher among the former than among the latter. Similarly, as between the high-status artisan castes and the low-status service (artisan) castes literacy rate is higher among the former than among the latter. Among Muslims also the literacy percentage is higher among the high-status non-functional Muslims than among the low-status functional Muslims.

The table clearly suggests that literacy in rural areas is closely linked with the status hierarchy, the groups that are ranked higher in the status hierarchy showing a higher percentage of literates than others.

Economic Groups

Let us now examine the pattern of literacy in different economic groups. In rural areas the size of operational land holding could be taken as a major criterion for determining the economic position of a household. The percentage of literates in different size groups of operational land holding are presented in Table 2.

It can be observed that the percentage of literates shows a tendency to increase along with the increase in the size of operational land holding. This trend is noteworthy also in respect of literacy among females. It is, however, unmistakably evident that the degree of literacy is more sharply associated with caste status than with economic position (as denoted by operational land holding).

Table 2 : Percentage of Literates in Size-Groups of Operated Land Holdings

Size of Operational Land Holding	Males			Females			Total		
	No	%	%	No	%	%	No	%	%
Nil	22.2	3.0	13.3						
Less than 1 acre	19.4	3.9	11.8						
1.2 - 2.5 acres	23.9	3.2	14.2						
2.5 - 5.0 acres	25.2	5.6	16.3						
5.00 - 10.00 acres	34.00	7.2	21.8						
10.0 - 15.0 acres	39.2	17.1	28.7						
15 acres & over	52.4	17.9	37.4						
All	28.2	6.4	18.1						

Table 3 (p 23) showing the pattern of literacy in different castes and economic groups together indicates a very interesting pattern. It can be seen that although as between different groups the variations in literacy are linked more markedly with caste than with economic position, the variations in literacy within each caste group are signifi-

cantly related to differences in economic position. (The data regarding Brahmins and other high caste Hindus does not lend support to this generalisation). Thus, while inter-group differences are along caste lines, the intra-group differences (within castes) are significantly related to economic differentiation within each group.

Table 4 : Percentage of Educated Among the Literates and Total Population According to Caste and Community

Caste Groups	Males		Females		Total	
	% of Educated Among Literates	% Educated to the Total Population	% of Educated Among Literates	% Educated to the Total Population	% of Educated Among Literates	% Educated to the Total Population
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)
(i) Brahmins & other caste Hindus	87.8	55.1	50.0	12.7	80.9	34.0
(ii) Cultivating castes	74.2	22.2	73.1	6.3	74.0	15.2
a) High	74.8	25.1	70.2	8.7	73.8	17.9
b) Low	72.7	17.1	100.0	2.3	74.6	10.6
(iii) Artisan castes	72.3	18.0	61.5	2.4	71.0	10.6
a) High	70.0	20.0	66.7	2.7	69.6	10.8
b) Low	73.0	17.5	60.0	2.3	71.4	10.6
(iv) Backward and Scheduled castes	71.6	11.9	90.0	1.3	72.9	6.9
(v) Muslims	74.0	20.5	82.4	5.6	75.5	13.5
a) High	76.9	23.6	85.1	8.4	78.7	16.5
b) Low	67.5	15.5	63.6	1.4	67.2	8.7
(vi) Christians	100.0	50.0	0.0	0.0	100.0	66.7
All	76.0	21.4	72.3	4.6	75.5	13.6

Table 5 : Percentage of Educated Among the Literates and Total Population According to Economic Groups

Size of Operational Land Holding	Males		Females		Total	
	% of Educated Among Literates	% Educated to the Total Population	% of Educated Among Literates	% Educated to the Total Population	% of Educated Among Literates	% Educated to the Total Population
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)
Nil	69.1	15.3	66.7	2.0	68.8	9.1
Less than 1 acre	57.6	11.2	38.5	1.5	54.4	6.4
1.0 - 2.5 acres	77.6	18.5	81.3	2.6	78.0	11.1
2.5 - 5.0 acres	78.5	19.8	78.1	4.4	78.4	12.8
5.0 - 10.0 acres	79.0	26.8	77.8	5.6	78.9	17.2
10.0 - 15.0 acres	78.3	30.7	76.6	13.1	77.8	7.8
15 acres & over	83.8	43.9	65.4	11.7	80.0	29.9
All	76.0	21.4	72.3	4.6	75.5	13.6

Table 6 : Distribution of Educated According to Level of Education

Level of Education	Males		Females		Total	
	No	%	No	%	No	%
Primary (5th Class)	511	65.8	137	94.5	648	70.3
Middle (8th Class)	163	21.0	8	5.5	171	18.5
High School	66	8.5	—	—	66	7.2
Intermediate	23	3.0	—	—	23	2.5
Graduate and Other Professional Degree	14	1.7	—	—	14	1.5
All	777	100.0	145	100.0	922	100.0

**II
Pattern of Education**

In the earlier section, we discussed the pattern of literacy among caste and economic groups. Let us now discuss the pattern of education among the literates. Art educated literate has been defined as a person who had a regular schooling and/or had passed some examination. The percentage of educated among the total literates in different caste, community and economic groups are presented in Tables 4 and 5 respectively.

It is important to note that the percentage of educated among the literates is uniformly high in all the castes and economic groups and the link between castes and the percentage of educated among the literates is not very marked. Highly significant is the very high percentage of educated among literates in the backward and scheduled castes group, almost as high as in the cultivating caste group. Equally significant is the uniformly high percentage of educated among literates in the female population. Another fact of significance is that the variations in the percentage of educated among literates are insignificant as between the high status and low status artisan castes.

No consistent relationship is discernible between the percentage of educated among literates in relation to economic groups. It can only be broadly stated that the higher economic groups show a slightly higher percentage of educated among literates.

**III
Level of Education**

Of crucial significance is an examination of the level of education among the educated. Among the 1,222 total literates, 922 were educated. The distribution of these 922 educated persons according to their level of education is given in Table 6.

Among the males 65.8 per cent of the educated had studied upto or were studying at the primary level, 21 per cent upto middle, 8.5 per cent upto high school level and only 4.7 per cent had college education upto intermediate or graduate level. Among females 94.5 per cent had studied only upto primary level and the rest had studied only upto the middle level. In the 12 villages as a whole, about 89 per cent literates had education only upto middle level—in fact, 70 per cent had studied only upto the primary level.

Certain interesting features are observed while analysing the relative importance of caste and economic position in influencing the level of education. Tables 7 and 8 give the distribution of educated persons according to their level of education and caste and economic position respectively. It can be seen from the Tables that there is a clear relationship between level of education on the one hand and caste and economic position on the other.

Of the 648 persons who had received education upto the primary level, 100 (15.4 per cent) were from Brahmin and other high caste Hindus, 132 (20.4 per cent) from cultivating castes, 57 (8.8 per cent) from artisan caste, 78 (12 per cent) from Backward and Scheduled castes, 280 (43.2 per cent) from Muslims and one (0.2 per cent) from Christians. Similarly, of 171 persons who had received education upto the middle level, 45 (26.3 per cent) were from Brahmins and other caste Hindus, 40 (23.4 per cent) from cultivating castes, 14 (8.2 per cent) from artisan castes, 21 (12.3 per cent) from backward and Scheduled castes and 51 (29.8 per cent) from Muslims. It is important to note that the lower caste

Table 3 : Percentage of Literacy in Different Caste and Economic Groups

Caste & Sex	Brahmins and High Castes			Cultivating Castes			Artisan Castes			Harijan and Scheduled Castes			Muslims			Christians			Total		
	M	F	T	M	F	T	M	F	T	M	F	T	M	F	T	M	F	T	M	F	T
Nil	64.5	9.1	38.7	6.5	0.0	4.3	27.3	4.1	15.7	13.7	1.5	8.0	18.6	2.6	11.2	50.0	0.0	33.3	22.2	3.0	13.3
Less than 1 acres	71.4	33.3	53.8	11.4	0.0	6.6	14.9	4.9	10.2	14.6	1.0	7.8	23.2	4.9	13.9	—	—	—	19.4	3.9	11.8
1 — 2.5	64.5	11.1	44.9	18.6	2.1	11.3	26.4	2.6	15.2	15.4	1.3	8.6	25.1	4.6	15.3	—	—	—	23.9	3.2	11.2
2.5 — 5.0	50.0	2.8	29.8	16.6	4.4	11.4	24.4	1.4	13.6	16.7	0.8	8.9	32.2	12.0	23.1	—	—	—	25.2	5.6	16.5
5 — 10	69.9	30.6	51.9	31.5	3.9	19.7	29.4	9.3	20.2	23.3	2.9	14.5	32.3	4.9	19.1	—	—	—	34.0	7.2	21.8
10 — 15	64.7	27.8	45.7	41.1	15.3	28.8	16.7	0.0	11.7	20.0	0.0	10.8	38.7	21.4	30.4	—	—	—	39.2	17.1	28.7
15 & above	57.1	16.1	37.9	52.3	21.2	38.5	—	—	—	20.0	0.0	13.3	70.4	15.8	47.8	—	—	—	52.4	17.9	37.4
TOTAL	62.7	16.9	42.0	29.9	8.7	20.6	24.9	3.9	15.0	16.5	1.4	9.4	27.8	6.8	17.9	50.0	0.0	33.3	28.2	6.4	18.1

Table 7 : Level of Education Among Educated in Different Caste Groups

Level of Education	Brahmins and High caste Hindus			Cultivating Castes			Artisan Castes			Backward and Scheduled Castes			Muslims			Christians			Total		
	M	F	T	M	F	T	M	F	T	M	F	T	M	F	T	M	F	T	M	F	T
Primary School	82	18	100	98	34	132	49	8	57	69	9	78	212	68	280	1	—	1	511	137	648
Middle School	43	2	45	36	4	40	14	—	14	21	—	21	49	2	51	—	—	—	163	8	171
High School	21	—	21	17	—	17	5	—	5	5	—	5	18	—	18	—	—	—	66	—	66
Intermediate	10	—	10	10	—	10	—	—	—	1	—	1	2	—	2	—	—	—	23	—	23
Graduate & Post Graduate	2	—	2	9	—	9	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	—	3	—	—	—	14	—	14
TOTAL	158	20	178	170	38	208	68	8	76	96	9	105	204	70	354	1	—	1	777	145	922

T = Total F = Females M = Males

groups of artisans and 'backward and scheduled' castes are significantly represented among those educated upto the middle school level.

Of these 66 who had been educated upto the High School level, 21 (31.8 per cent) were from Brahmins and other high caste Hindus, 17 (25.8 per cent) from cultivating castes, 18 (27.3 per cent) from the Muslims and 5 (7.6 per cent) each from artisans and 'backward and scheduled' castes. Even here, the representation of artisan and 'backward and scheduled castes' is significant.

As regards education beyond the High School level, it may be noted that except for one person belonging to 'backward and Scheduled castes' who had studied upto the Intermediate, none from the artisan and 'backward and scheduled castes' has had College education whereas 12 (36.4 per cent) persons from Brahmins and other high caste Hindus and 19 (57.6 per cent) persons from cultivating castes had education beyond the High School level.

To sum up, though the level of education is markedly associated with caste hierarchy, the leading position in the over-all pattern is occupied not by 'Brahmins and other high caste Hindus' but by the non-Brahmin cultivating castes. Further, education beyond the High School level is by and large concentrated among the three groups, viz, cultivating castes, 'Brahmins and other high caste Hindus' and Muslims. The other important fea-

tures are the significant representation of the artisan and 'backward and scheduled' castes among those educated upto the High School level and the complete absence of females among these educated beyond the middle level in all the caste groups.

Education and Economic Position

A significant relationship exists between economic position and level of education. Among the 66 persons who were educated upto the High School level, 9 (13.6 per cent) were in the 15 acres and above size group, 12 (18.2 per cent) were in the 10-15 acres size group, 21 (31.8 per cent) were in the 5-10 acres size group, 12 (18.2 per cent) were in the 2.5-5 acres size group, 2 (3.0 per cent) each were in the 1-2.5 acres and below 1 acre size group and 8 (12.2 per cent) in the group having no land but other agricultural and non-agricultural sources of livelihood.

It may be noted that those who had received education upto High School level were drawn from all the size groups, though the representation of persons from the 1-2.5 acres and below 1 acre size groups was not very significant. Further, of the 23 persons who had received education upto the Intermediate level, 8 (34.8 per cent) were from the 15 acres and above size group, 5 (21.8 per cent) were from the 10-15 acres size group, 8 (34.8 per cent) were from the 5-10 acres size group and 1 (4.3 per cent) each were from the 2.5-5 acre size group and from those who had no

land, Finally, of the 14 persons who had received or were receiving graduate or post-graduate education, 7 (50.0 per cent) were from the 15 acres and above size group, 4 (28.6 per cent) were from the 10-15 acres size group, 1 (7.1 per cent) was from the 2.5 to 5 acres size group, and 2 (14.3 per cent) were from the below 1 acre size group.

To sum up, whereas all the size groups were represented in varying degrees among those educated upto the High School level, representation of persons belonging to groups having less than 5 acres of land was not significant among those educated beyond the High School level. It is persons belonging mostly to size group having land holdings of more than 5 acres who were represented among those educated beyond the High School level. It may be inferred that economic position was a very important factor determining the number of educated beyond the High School level. This is borne out still more markedly by Table 9 which shows level of education (relation simultaneously to caste and economic position).

It can be seen that though, as stated earlier, persons having education beyond the High School level were mostly concentrated among the cultivating castes, 'Brahmins and other caste Hindus' and Muslims, within each of these caste groups educated persons beyond the High School level belonged mostly to size groups of more than 5 acres.

Table 8 : Level of Education in Different Economic Groups

Level of Education	Nil			Less than 1 acre			1—2.5 acres			2.5—5 acres			5—10 acres			10—15 acres			15 acres			Total		
	M	F	T	M	F	T	M	F	T	M	F	T	M	F	T	M	F	T	M	F	T	M	F	T
Primary School	88	14	102	26	5	31	83	13	96	95	23	118	125	34	159	58	34	92	36	14	50	511	137	648
Middle School	26	—	26	8	—	8	19	—	19	26	2	28	46	1	47	15	2	17	23	3	26	163	8	171
High School	8	—	8	2	—	2	2	—	2	12	—	12	21	—	21	12	—	12	9	—	9	66	—	66
Intermediate	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1	8	—	8	5	—	5	8	—	8	23	—	23
Graduate and Post-Graduate	—	—	—	2	—	2	—	—	—	1	—	1	—	—	—	4	—	4	7	—	7	14	—	14
TOTAL	123	14	137	38	5	43	104	13	117	135	25	160	200	35	235	94	36	130	83	17	100	777	145	922

M = Males, F = Females, T = Total

Table 9 : Level of Education and Caste and Economic Position

Level of education	Land cultivation Code	Brahmins and High Castes			Cultivating Caste			Artisans Castes			Backward and Scheduled Castes			Muslims			Christians			Total		
		M	F	T	M	F	T	M	F	T	M	F	T	M	F	T	M	F	T	M	F	T
<i>Upto Primary</i>																						
	0	24	2	26	—	—	—	14	3	17	11	2	13	38	7	45	1	—	1	88	14	102
	1	—	—	—	2	—	2	1	—	1	9	1	10	14	4	18	—	—	—	26	5	31
	2	10	1	11	7	1	8	16	1	17	19	2	21	31	8	39	—	—	—	83	13	96
	3	13	—	13	17	4	21	8	—	8	12	1	13	45	18	63	—	—	—	95	23	118
	4	21	11	32	28	4	32	8	4	12	14	3	17	54	12	66	—	—	—	125	34	159
	5	5	4	9	25	14	39	2	—	2	—	—	—	26	16	42	—	—	—	53	34	92
	6	9	—	9	19	11	30	—	—	—	4	—	4	4	3	7	—	—	—	36	14	50
Total		82	18	100	98	34	132	49	8	57	69	9	78	212	68	280	1	—	1	511	137	648
<i>Upto Middle</i>																						
	0	11	—	11	—	—	—	4	—	4	4	—	4	7	—	7	—	—	—	26	—	26
	1	2	—	2	—	—	—	1	—	1	—	—	—	5	—	5	—	—	—	8	—	8
	2	6	—	6	1	—	1	2	—	2	5	—	5	5	—	5	—	—	—	19	—	19
	3	3	1	4	—	—	—	6	—	6	5	—	5	12	1	13	—	—	—	26	2	28
	4	13	1	14	12	—	12	1	—	1	7	—	7	13	—	13	—	—	—	46	1	47
	5	3	—	3	11	1	12	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	2	—	—	—	15	2	17
	6	5	—	5	12	3	15	—	—	—	—	—	—	6	—	6	—	—	—	23	3	26
Total		43	2	45	36	4	40	14	—	14	21	—	21	49	2	51	—	—	—	163	8	171
<i>Upto High School</i>																						
	0	5	—	5	1	—	1	1	—	1	—	—	—	1	—	1	—	—	—	8	—	8
	1	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1	—	—	—	2	—	2
	2	1	—	1	—	—	—	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	2
	3	1	—	1	2	—	2	3	—	3	1	—	1	5	—	5	—	—	—	12	—	12
	4	9	—	9	4	—	4	—	—	—	2	—	2	6	—	6	—	—	—	21	—	21
	5	2	—	2	7	—	7	—	—	—	2	—	2	1	—	1	—	—	—	12	—	12
	6	2	—	2	3	—	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	4	—	4	—	—	—	9	—	9
Total		21	—	21	17	—	17	5	—	5	5	—	5	18	—	18	—	—	—	66	—	66
<i>Upto Intermediate</i>																						
	0	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1
	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	3	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1
	4	5	—	5	2	—	2	—	—	—	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	8	—	8
	5	1	—	1	3	—	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1	—	—	—	5	—	5
	6	2	—	2	5	—	5	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1	—	—	—	8	—	8
Total		10	—	10	10	—	10	—	—	—	1	—	1	2	—	2	—	—	—	23	—	23
<i>Graduate & Post Graduate</i>																						
	0	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	1	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1	—	—	—	2	—	2
	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1	—	—	—	1	—	1
	4	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	5	—	—	—	4	—	4	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	4	—	4
	6	1	—	1	5	—	5	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1	—	—	—	7	—	7
Total		2	—	2	9	—	9	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	—	3	—	—	—	14	—	14
<i>Total</i>																						
	0	41	2	43	1	—	1	19	3	22	15	2	17	46	7	53	1	—	1	123	14	137
	1	4	—	4	2	—	2	2	—	2	9	1	10	21	4	25	—	—	—	38	5	43
	2	17	1	18	8	1	9	19	1	20	24	2	26	36	8	44	—	—	—	104	13	117
	3	18	1	19	19	4	23	17	—	17	18	1	19	63	19	82	—	—	—	135	25	160
	4	48	12	60	46	4	50	9	4	13	24	3	27	73	12	85	—	—	—	200	35	235
	5	11	4	15	50	15	65	2	—	2	2	—	2	29	17	46	—	—	—	94	36	130
	6	19	—	19	44	14	58	—	—	—	4	—	4	16	3	19	—	—	—	83	17	100
Grand Total		158	20	178	170	38	208	68	8	76	96	9	105	284	70	354	1	—	1	777	145	922

Land Cultivation Code :

- 0 = Nil
1 = less than 1 acre
2 = 1-2.5 acres
3 = 2.5-5.0 acres
4 = 5.0-10.0 acres
5 = 10.0-15.0 acres
6 = 15.0 & above

M = Males, F = Females, T = Total

Thus, while inter-group differences in level of education beyond the High School level are significantly linked up with caste status, there are significant intra-group variations within each caste group which are related to differences of land holdings. There are 2 Muslims and 1 person from 'Brahmin land other caste Hindus' belonging to size group of less than 5 acres who had education upto the graduate or post graduate level and are an exception to this generalisation. It appears that though belonging to lower size groups, they had other sources of non-agricultural income enabling them to secure higher education.

IV

Conclusions

To sum up, the data relating to literacy and education in the 12 selected villages of UP show that:

(1) The percentage of literates is much higher among males than among females in the total population of these villages. This is true both in different castes as well as economic groups though the proportion of literate females increases along with rise in caste status and economic position.

(2) Similarly, the proportion of literates in the age-groups (5-14) and (13-24) is much higher than in the other age-groups. Illiteracy is very much predominant in the higher age-groups.

(3) The degree of literacy and the proportion of educated among the literates are associated both with caste status and economic position (as denoted by size of operated land holding), though these, are more sharply associated with former than with the latter. It is also significant that while inter-group differences in literacy are related more with caste status, intra-group variations in literacy within each caste group are significantly associated with differences in land size within each caste group.

(4) Though the level of education is markedly associated with caste status, the leading position in the over-all pattern is occupied not by 'Brahmins and other high caste Hindus' but by the non-Brahmin cultivating castes. Further, whereas there is a significant representation of the artisans and 'backward and scheduled' castes among the edu-

cated upto the High School level, education beyond the High School level is by and large concentrated among cultivating castes, 'Brahmins and other high caste Hindus' and Muslims. The other significant feature is the complete absence of females among those educated beyond the middle level in all the size groups.

(5) Whereas all the size groups of operated land holdings were represented in varying degrees among those educated upto the High School level, the representation of persons belonging to groups having less than 5 acres was not significant among those educated beyond the High School level. It is persons belonging mostly to size groups having land holdings of more than 5 acres who were mostly represented among those educated beyond the High School level. Economic position, therefore, was an important factor determining the number of those educated beyond the High School level.

(6) While inter-group variations in level of education were broadly along caste lines, there were significant intra-caste group variations in the number of educated beyond the High School level which were re-

lated to differences in operated land size within each caste group

To sum up, educational processes do not operate in a social and economic vacuum. On the contrary, the pattern of literacy and education reflects in a significant manner the characteristics of the social structure. It may be said thus that in a developing country the pattern of educational change is vitally inter-linked with the pattern of social transformation.

Appendices

A : List of Castes Included in Various Groups

- (i) Brahmins and other high caste Hindus :—
 1 Brahmins
 2 Bania
 3 Thakur
 4 Kayastha
 5 Goswami
- (ii) Cultivating castes
 (a) High
 1 Ahir
 2 Gular
 3 Jat/Jat Sikh
 4 Murao
 5 Sani
 (b) Low
 6 Kurmi
 7 Kisan
- (iii) Artisans
 (a) High
 1 Nai

B : Population of Five Years and Above in Different Caste Groups

Caste group *	Males	Females	Total
(i) Brahmins and other high caste Hindus	287	237	524
(ii) Cultivating caste	767	600	1367
a. High	487	379	866
b. Low	280	221	501
(iii) Artisans castes	378	336	714
a. High	70	78	148
b. Low	308	258	566
(iv) Backward and Scheduled castes	810	718	1528
(v) Muslims	1382	1243	2625
a. Functional	859	751	1610
b. Non-functional	523	492	1015
(vi) Christians	2	1	3
TOTAL	3626	3135	6761

C : Population of 5 Years and above in Different Economic (Land Size) Groups

Size of Operative Land Holding	Males	Females	Total
(i) Nil	803	698	1501
(ii) Less than 1 acre	340	331	671
(iii) 1.0—2.5 acres	561	494	1055
(iv) 2.5—5 acres	682	568	1250
(v) 5.0—10.0 acres	745	824	1369
(vi) 10.0—15.0 acres	306	275	581
(vii) 15.0 acres and over	189	145	334
ALL	3626	3135	6761

2 Tailor	7 Chamar	12 Sheik (Saddiqi)
3 Carpenter	8 Chura	(b) Functional
(b) Low	9 Jatava	13 Sheik (Ansari)
4 Jhinawar	10 Pasi	14 Sheik (Kumhar)
5 Kumhar	11 Dhanik	15 Sheik (Banjara)
6 Dhunia	12 Kachin	16 Sheik (Dhunka)
7 Dhola	13 Dhunka	17 Sheik (Kurachi)
8 Jullaha	(v) Muslims	18 Sheik (Nakkarchi)
9 Sunahar	(a) Non-Functional	19 Sheik (Dappulachi)
10 Lohar	1 Turk	20 Sheik (Nuzaim)
11 Rangras	2 Sheik	21 Kasai
12 Teli	3 Syad	22 Sakka
13 Kahar	4 Pathan	23 Fakir
(iv) Backward and Scheduled Castes	5 Muslim Rajput	24 Teli
1 Galaria	6 Nai	25 Dhobi
2 Kawat	7 Barabaj	26 Lohar
3 Sansi	8 Sheik (Beopari)	27 Rangras
4 Bhartooya	9 Sheik (Tailor)	28 Muslim (Non-Nansari)
5 Bhar	10 Mir Sahib	29 Muslim (Dhunia)
6 Lunia	11 Muslim	(vi) Christian

Around Bombay Markets

All Eyes on Bhubaneswar

Thursday, Morning

DALAL STREET looked quite gay and full of hope and promise when it closed for Christmas holidays on December 24, to reopen on January 2. But the mood soon changed. The holiday feeling was marred by excited discussions on nationalisation of banks, ceiling on incomes and extension of State control over the economy which preceded the Congress draft resolution on democracy and socialism. In the confusion that followed animated discussions on democratic socialism there was a fair amount of anxious selling and prices suffered a sizeable setback from their earlier kerb highs. Hopes revived when the Finance Minister persuasively told the Congress Working Committee that nationalisation of banking could yield very little at this stage and that it deserved a low priority in the programme of economic development. The market was again in jitters on Tuesday night when it heard that the draft resolution sought to place a limit on incomes, inherited wealth and urban property and pleaded for a larger share for the State in capital gains and unearned incomes. The initial reaction was quite impulsive and the market turned steady when the full details of the draft resolution became known on Wednesday.

Indeed, there is very little in the Congress Working Committee's draft resolution on democracy and social-

ism which need cause any scare in the stock market. There is no reference to nationalisation of banks, though a plea has been made for more effective Government control over credit and investible resources so as to direct them along the lines of national priorities and social purposes. But this is precisely what is sought to be achieved through the recent amendments to the Banking Law. Public sector is to play a progressively larger role in large-scale industry and trade but there is full recognition of the importance of the private sector in the economy of the country. Controls have been recommended only when they are deemed indispensable in the larger interests of the community.

Reference to limitation of incomes and urban property, especially inherited wealth and to securing by the State of a larger share of capital gains and unearned incomes and plea for sterner measures to deal with unaccounted Wealth which has been corrupting society is perhaps about all that might cause some uneasiness in business and stock market circles. But here again, there is nothing new and already income tax, wealth tax and death duty are taking away quite large slices of income and inherited wealth. And since unaccounted, wealth is not finding its way to the investment market, the stock exchange commu-

nity should welcome measures aimed at checking tax evasion.

The stock market has no cause for worry on account of the Congress Working Committee's resolution on democracy and socialism, more particularly when the Finance Minister Krishnamachari has already assured that the fiscal policy will be suitably modified in order to stimulate production, saving and investment. And T T K imaginative and bold. The stock market perhaps realises all that. But it is not quite certain whether the draft resolution on democracy and socialism will go through the Bhubaneswar session without any modifications. All eyes are therefore on Bhubaneswar. And if the draft resolution does not undergo any change, the stock market will turn buoyant again and this time cash shares, which have hitherto been lagging behind speculators' favourites, are likely to forge ahead appreciably.

Cotton

Subdued at Week-end

ON 26th December Jarilla March was bid up to Rs 737.25 — a record high for the season. Thereafter it drifted lower to Rs 728.50 on corrective profit-taking and the month-end closing was only a little higher at Rs 729.75. The setback from Rs 737.25 to Rs 728.50 seems