

DEMOGRAPHIC IMBALANCE AND CAUSES OF DECLINE SEX RATIO IN HARYANA

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ABSTRACT:

Sex ratio indicates the social and balanced development of the society. But the alarming rate of female foeticide is a cause of grave concern, as the number of girls born is declining drastically in several sections of our society. In Haryana this is the worst child sex ratio of 877 girls on 1000 boys in census 2011. This decline sex ratio indicated the growing preference for a male child comparative to girls. The selection is done through either sex selective abortions or female infanticides. The UN had last year issued a warning that the falling child sex ratios had reached emergency proportions in the country and urgent steps are needed to reverse the situation. The paper examine the changes in growth composition of population from 1901 to 2011 in Haryana and examine the district wise sex ratio in levels of demographic development from 2000 to 2011 and causes of declining sex ratio in Haryana. If we saw the recent figures of sex ratio after the Beti Bacho, Beti Padhao Campaign Haryana child sex ratio cross the 900 marks for the first time in 10 years in Dec,2015. This reveals that sustained efforts of government policies and programmes help to remove these disparities and create the balance in sex ratio in Haryana.

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INTRODUCTION:-

Human resources are vital component in stimulating rapid economic growth. Rapid growth of social and economic indicators shows the development of specific areas of education health, industry and infrastructure. But the disparities in context of demographic indicators largely reflect the pattern of a society in different ways. The declining sex ratios in India have always been a matter of serious concern, fresh data and projections should cause alarm. The UN had last year issued a warning that the falling child sex ratios had reached emergency proportions in the country and urgent steps are needed to reverse the situation. The trend, which was especially strong in certain regions like the north and northwest, continues to be so (Deccan Herald, 2015). Haryana has achieved rapid growth in social and economic indicators even after that there exist disparities in demographic indicators because of lack of medical and education facilities and indicated the wide disparities in sex ratio due to female feticides across regions. Sex Ratio is an important social indicator to measure the extent of equity between male and female in a society. The sex ratio in Haryana during the past hundred years has remained between 835 on the lowest side and 870 on the highest side. In 1901, the sex ratio in the state was 867. It was the same in 1971 and increased to 870 in 1981 but declined marginally to 865 in 1991 and again to 861 in 2001 and then increased little to 877 in 2011. The declining sex ratio is a matter of great concern as it will lead to serious demographic imbalance and adverse social consequences. There is needed to be tackling the problem with appropriate, effective and sustainable measures.

OBJECTIVES OF THE PAPER: - The specific objectives of the present paper are following:-

1. To examine the changes in growth composition of population from 1901 to 2011 in Haryana.
2. To examine the district wise sex ratio in levels of demographic development from 2000 to 2011 and causes of declining sex ratio in Haryana.
- 3.

METHODOLOGY OF THE PAPER: -

The secondary data has been collected from the various issues of Statistical Abstract of Haryana, from 2000-2011 and has been analyzed with the help of some necessary statistical tools such as averages, percentages, standard deviations and coefficient of variations (C.V.) to draw the results. In this paper, there are two sections: First section deals with the trends of changes in

growth composition of population and sex ratio in Haryana. Second section deals with the causes of declining sex ratio in Haryana.

RESULT AND DISUCSSION:

Section I:- Trends of Changes in Growth Composition of Population and Sex Ratio in Haryana-

The growth of population is often used to connote the change in the number of people living in a particular area during a specific period of time irrespective of the fact whether the change is negative or positive. The growth of population is positive if there is increase in population and negative if there is decrease in population between two periods of time. The net change between two points of time is expressed in percentage and is described as growth rate of population. In Haryana demographic indicators e.g birth rate, death rate and child sex ratio_growth rate increase in the proportion with the decade left the one that is sex ratio. The population data of census indicated that Haryana have the lowest sex ratio. There is need to increase the sex ratio and reduce variation in population. The following table shows the trends of change in growth composition of population in Haryana.

Table-1

Changes in Growth Composition of Population from 1901 to 2011 in Haryana

Year	Population	Variation in Population	Decennial percentage Increase	Males	Females	Sex ratio
1901	46,23,064	(--)	—	24,76,390	21,46,674	867
1911	41,74,677	(-)448387	(-)9.70	22,74,909	18,99,768	835
1921	42,55,892	81,215	1.95	23,07,985	19,47,907	844
1931	45,59,917	3,04,025	7.14	24,73,228	20,86,689	844
1941	52,72,829	7,12,912	15.63	28,21,783	24,51,046	869
1951	56,73,597	4,00,768	7.6	30,31,612	26,41,985	871
1961	75,90,524	19,16,927	33.79	40,62,787	35,27,737	868
1971	1,00,36,431	24,45,907	32.22	53,77,044	46,59,387	867

1981	1,29,22,119	28,85,688	28.75	69,09,679	60,12,440	870
1991	1,64,63,648	35,41,529	27.41	88,27,474	76,36,174	865
2001	2,11,44,564	46,80,916	28.43	1,13,63,953	97,80,611	861
2011	2,53,53,081	42,08,517	19.9	1,35,05,130	1,18,47,951	877

Source:- Statistical Abstract of Haryana, various issues

The table-1 indicated that decennial percentage of population of Haryana during 1911 was (-) 9.70% and sex ratio was 835. The figures in the table shows that demographic structure of Haryana is changing with the time but the problem of decline sex ratio is not disperse in Haryana. The population increase (56, 73,597) and decennial percentage increase 7.6 percentages and sex ratio was 871. But after independence of 69 years the situation was same where the population of Haryana is as per Census 2011 is 2.54 crores an increase from figure of 2.11 crore in 2001 census. Total population of Haryana as per 2011 census is 25,351,462 of which male and female are 13,494,734 and 11,856,728 respectively. In 2001, total population was 21,144,564 in which males were 11,363,953 while females were 9,780,611 and the situation of sex ratio is still same which 877 behind 1000 male. The census data shows the worse situation of females because traditional and social life has a great influence the imbalance sex ratio in Haryana. The government needs to take the strong step to increase the sex ratio. The population imparts the education and people were need to aware that there is no difference between male and female.

Trends of Declining Sex Ratio in Haryana:-

The society can be observed normal and healthy only when there is no gender bias and there is a balanced sex ratio. The alarming rate of female foeticide is a cause of grave concern, as the number of girls born is declining drastically in several sections of our society. In Haryana this is the worst child sex ratio of 877 girls on 1000 boys. This decline sex ratio indicated the growing preference for a male child comparative to girls. The selection is done through either sex selective abortions or female infanticides. Due to this disproportionate ratio, the situation has the potential to expose females to more exploitation and violence, increasing cases of rape and selective abortions. Even with rise in awareness, advancement of technology and increase in educated individuals; the child sex ratio in this country is dwindling. Increasing gender

imbalance can be disruptive of society in many other ways. The problem is more socio-cultural and behavioral and is not limited illegal ultrasounds for sex determination. This state of affairs if not checked will have a disastrous impact on the future generations of our country (Dubbubu. R, 2015). The below table indicates the sex ratio of Haryana from 2000-11.

Table-2

Sex Ratio as per Civil Registration Scheme in Haryana (Female per 1000 Male)

District	2000 -01	2001 -02	2002 -03	2003 -04	2004 -05	2005 -06	2006 -07	2007 -08	2008 -09	2009 -10	2010 -11
Ambala	750	767	851	818	800	791	808	814	819	829	882
Panchkula	827	791	873	870	896	860	887	898	880	867	870
Yamunanagar	786	777	846	844	828	829	876	854	847	823	877
Kurukshetra	740	745	850	817	802	779	803	823	800	809	889
Kaithal	762	781	813	803	806	832	892	867	834	846	880
Karnal	807	790	845	821	791	813	863	878	836	835	886
Panipat	831	822	858	827	832	870	866	867	860	835	861
Sonipat	736	758	779	763	758	788	830	810	839	820	853
Rohtak	792	791	766	821	792	830	867	842	853	821	868
Jhajjar	745	722	911	733	742	790	796	831	802	824	861
Faridabad	824	808	815	833	797	860	868	874	886	903	871
Palwal	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	919	879
Gurgaon	779	766	828	756	787	842	825	853	838	858	853
Mewat	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	865	863	885	887	906
Rewari	795	752	846	825	770	771	797	804	780	780	898
Mohindergarh	743	797	765	764	755	772	785	767	792	789	894
Bhiwani	797	808	826	806	764	814	860	895	868	863	884
Jind	786	772	837	814	785	855	889	895	893	860	870
Hisar	813	825	865	835	782	832	901	907	873	874	871

Fatehabad	912	836	856	877	839	869	890	869	885	884	903
Sirsa	895	893	835	908	885	857	891	897	904	883	896

Source:- Statistical Abstract of Haryana, various issues

In Haryana, Sex Ratio always shows the disparities because of wide gap between male and female ratio. Table 2 shows sex ratio was highest in Sirsa (895) & Fatehabad (912) whereas lowest in Kurukshetra (740) & Ambala (750) in 2000-01. During 2005-06 the highest sex ratio was again in Fatehabad (869) and lowest in Rewari (771) and Mohindergarh (772) etc. Fatehabad district continuously show the increasing trends of sex ratio during 2000-01 to 2010-11. In Haryana there is sharply decline in sex ratio, it is a matter of serious concern. In 2010-11 Mewat (906) and Fatehabad (908) shows the highest sex ratio and Sonipat (853) and Gurgaon (853) shows the lowest sex ratio.

Table- 3

Value of coefficient of variation for Sex Ratio as per Civil Registration Scheme in Haryana (Female per 1000 Male)											
Methods	2000-01	2001-02	2002-03	2003-04	2004-05	2005-06	2006-07	2007-08	2008-09	2009-10	2010-11
Average	795.79	789.526	835	817.632	800.579	823.895	852.95	855.4	848.7	848.048	878.667
S.D	48.6262	38.344	36.3073	42.8281	40.8416	33.8262	37.9397	37.5407	36.3421	36.5082	15.4542
C.V	6.1104	4.8565	4.3481	5.238	5.1015	4.1056	4.448	4.3886	4.282	4.3049	1.7588

Source-calculated from table -2

The all over picture of sex ratio in Haryana indicated the decline trend. Table 3 shows in 2000-01 the coefficient of variation was (6.11) but in 2005-06 it was (4.1) which show the regional disparities increased in sex ratio in Haryana during 2005-06. During 2007-08 the C.V was (4.3) which show the regional disparities were increase in sex ratio compared to 2005-06. But in 2008-09 the C.V was (4.2) and in 2010-11 it was (1.7) which indicates that sex ratio drastically decline in Haryana. The government of Haryana needs to take steps for increase the sex ratio and reduce these disparities in Haryana.

CAUSES OF LOW CHILD SEX RATIO IN HARYANA:

Strong preference to have a son

In India male child is given preferential treatment over a female child. Parents often neglect the female child's emotional, physical and mental needs, bringing her up to believe that her life is to serve others, especially the male members of the family and taking care of the household chores. Girls face discrimination before birth, at birth, and throughout their lives at the hands of their families. They are denied adequate medical and healthcare facilities, nutrition, education and are often subject to physical and sexual abuse. To get to the root of this problem one must understand the socio-economic and cultural structure in India. Due to the patriarchal framework of society the male child is looked upon as the bread winner. Parents look upon them for their security, to carry forward the family name and perform their last rites.

Economic consideration associated with daughters

The reality is that women's contribution towards the economic status of the family and towards the country's development remains invisible to men and women alike. Women's contribution to the economy is not clearly articulated. It is still seen and addressed as a social domain issue. But the fact is that women's labour contribution has become the backbone of the Indian economy's current growth path. They are the critical workers in the lead sectors that are triggering India's growth rate and comfortable domestic savings ratio. It is also through supporting their efforts in the Indian political economy that we can hope to reach some of our declared goals. For example, women constitute 40% of the agricultural workforce and the percentage is rising; 85% of rural women workers are in agriculture and at the lowest end in terms of the drudgery and wages. As men switch to non-farm activities, women are increasingly becoming the primary cultivators, but without land rights.

Social insecurity for women

Haryana is patriarchal state which is better known as daughter killer states. In Haryana status of women is very low and is considered as a burden in the family. There are many cases of honour killings, eloping couples and runaway marriages in Haryana. Honour killings are done by the community members who are Khap Panchayats. Women continue to be subjected to violence over the entire life cycle. Before birth they are condemned to sex selection and female foeticide;

during infant and childhood stage they are subject to infanticide or undernourishment; if they do manage to pass the age of five, they are neglected in medical care and education as well as subjected to sexual or physical violence; in adolescence and adulthood, they are faced with situations of early marriage, early pregnancy, sexual violence, domestic violence, harassment for dowry, desertion, dying during deliveries and as older women and widows condemned to a life of desertion and neglect. Violence over the life cycle is pervasive in this region. (“Socio-Demographic Profile of Haryana: A Gender Perspective”)

Illegal use of sex-selective technology

It shows that practice of female foeticide is more prevalent in state because of easy access to sex-selective technology found in various parts of the Haryana. Prevalence of the practice of female foeticide due to illegal use of sex-selective technology, better economic conditions of people for easy access to the use of sex-selective technology, pre-mature deliveries due to mal-nutrition, high infant mortality rate, high maternal mortality rate, impact of nearness to capital cities like New Delhi and Chandigarh are the factors responsible for low child sex ratio in India.

Low literacy ratio

Literacy and modernization have worsened matters. People are aware of abortion as well as determination options, now and it has become much more acceptable now in society. In rural areas where the people were less educated or illiterate they don't prefer the girl child. Sex ratio in Haryana is decline due to the poor thinking of the people. They don't have knowledge about the poor upcoming bed impact of decline sex ratio. There is need to impart knowledge and powerful education system in rural area to aware the society. On the other hand in urban areas most of the families, even if they are educated, prefer to have a son as their first child. If both the parents are working and have first child as boy, they do not try for second issue; if they have first baby as girl, only then they try for the second one.

Conclusion:

On the basis of foregoing analysis the result of the study revealed that Haryana has the lowest sex ratio in India; decline in sex ratio is due to the biased attitude against the girls. The decline sex ratio cause the shortage of females in the society can be disastrous and can lead to increase in

crime against women. The biased attitude of the people indicate that girls are a burden, a liability to the family where as boys carry the family name forward & bring honor to it & it is Coupled with burgeoning ultrasound centre's. This has fuelled the menace of female foeticide. The shortage of women for marriage may result in purchase of brides and may indirectly cause women trafficking. In 2012 UNICEF Report ranked India 41st among the highest decline sex ratio countries and Haryana has the worst sex ratio among all States in the country. The continued decline the child sex ratio is a major indicator of disempowerment of women and their subordinate status in the society. The skewed child sex ratio reflects degree of discrimination against girl child. There is need to change mindset of the people towards the girl child. Efforts should be made to save the girl child. Deficit in female population, leads to demographic imbalance and adverse social consequences will be seen in near future and society is influence through the social and cultural context.

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