

REGIONAL DISPARITIES IN EDUCATION: A COMPARATIVE STUDY BETWEEN KBK AND NON-KBK DISTRICTS OF ODISHA, INDIA

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ABSTRACT

This paper examines regional disparities in education in Odisha with special reference to KBK and non-KBK districts by using secondary data collected from various sources. The study analyses the results using (i) coefficient of variation (ii) Sopher's disparity index, (iii) co-efficient of equality, (iv) gender parity index, etc. The findings clearly show that: (i) there exists regional disparities in education between KBK and non-KBK regions in literacy and enrolment irrespective of gender and social groups. The paper concludes that there are demand side constraints of education in KBK districts. Hence, the findings in the paper suggest that in order to enhance enrolment in the KBK region parental motivation is very significant. Further, government has to take special measures like opening of more schools in remote areas, appointment of more female and ST teachers, provision of special incentive scheme for girls etc.

KEYWORDS: Regional Inequalities, Education, Disparities, Literacy