

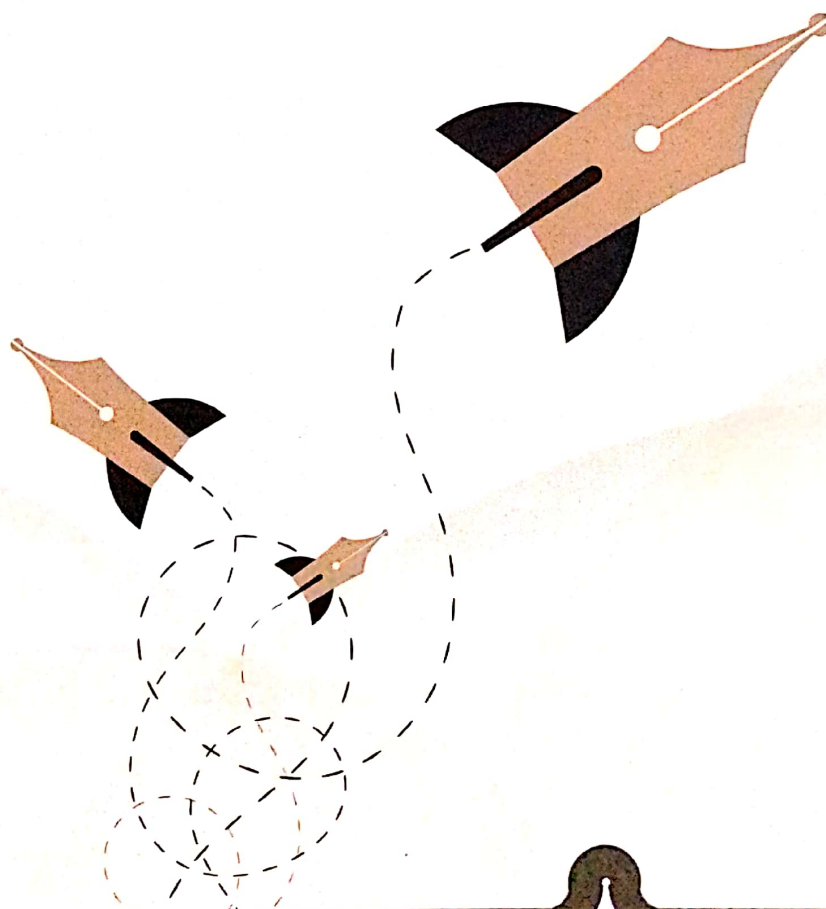
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CONTENTS

S. No.	TITLE	NAME OF AUTHORS	PAGE No.
1.	ROLE OF NGO'S IN PROTECTING THE ENVIRONMENT AND FOREST IN INDIA	Dr. Chandrakanthi L. Padma J.	1
2.	EMBRACING SOBER SELF: A GATEWAY TO EUDAIMONIC LIFE IN HOLLY WHITAKER'S QUIT LIKE A WOMAN	Neetu Vaid	6
3.	TEACHING OF FRENCH IN CBSE SCHOOLS OF VARANASI IN INDIA	Dr. Nishant Singh	10
4.	IDENTIFYING FACTORS AFFECTING INVESTMENT DECISION MAKING OF INDIVIDUAL INVESTORS: A CONCEPTUAL FRAMEWORK	Rashmi Vyas Dr. Neelam Kalla	16
5.	A COMPARATIVE STUDY OF PROSPECTIVE TEACHERS TOWARDS NEP 2020	Dr. M. A. Ansari Dr. Chetan Uttamrao Chavan	22
6.	TEST ANXIETY AMONG COLLEGE STUDENTS OF SOUTH KASHMIR	Shahid Majeed Bhat Dr. Shabir Ahmad Sheikh	29
7.	PROBLEMS OF LOW LITERACY AMONG SCHEDULED TRIBES OF JHARKHAND: CAUSES AND REMEDIES	Dr. Oshima Hati Sandhya Sinha	35
8.	A COMPARATIVE STUDY OF STUDENTS PERCEPTION ACROSS DIFFERENT FACULTIES ON A UNIFORM DRESS CODE IN UNIVERSITY	Navjot Brar Dr. Neha Miglani	41
9.	EMPOWERMENT OF WOMEN WITH DISABILITIES IN INDIA: ISSUES AND CHALLENGES	Dr. Arun Kumar Singh Ms. Tanwi Shams	46
10.	WOMEN ENTREPRENEURSHIP IN DIGITAL ERA: OPPORTUNITIES AND CHALLENGES (WITH SPECIAL REFERENCE TO INDIA)	Shikha Dubey Dr. Ajay Dwivedi	52
11.	IMPACT OF RETAIL LENDING PRACTICES AND BENEFICIARIES PERCEPTION REGARDING PUBLIC SECTOR BANKS IN KARAİKAL DISTRICT: AN EXPLORATORY STUDY	Dr. T. A. M. Hameed Khan	58

PROBLEMS OF LOW LITERACY AMONG SCHEDULED TRIBES OF JHARKHAND: CAUSES AND REMEDIES

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ABSTRACT

Jharkhand is a newly built state situated in the most north-eastern continuation of the Deccan plateau of peninsular India. It is bordered by five states that is Bihar to the north, Chhattisgarh to the north-west, West Bengal to the east and Orissa to the south. As an independent state, Jharkhand came into existence on 14 November 2000. It got its first independent census records in the census year 2001. One of the most important characteristics of the population in Jharkhand is the large concentration of the tribal population. The scheduled tribe population constitutes 26.20% of the total population in Jharkhand. This tribal population is distributed in almost all the districts of Jharkhand. They are economically weak and educationally backward compared to the general of the state and the country.

Education is a fundamental right of every citizen, and inclusive development is one of the government's chief aims. Hence, the development of the Tribal people of Jharkhand is paramount. The government has presented the draft National Education Policy, 2020 to address these issues. However, a considerable gap still exists between the Tribal population and the Non-Tribal population of Jharkhand.

In this paper, the author will present an analytical discussion of the present literacy rate across multiple dimensions of gender, age-group etc. The author also intends to perform a comparative analysis of the same with State & National peers. The author will also explore the extent of backwardness and root causes of low literacy rates among Jharkhand's scheduled tribe. Issues such as poverty, primitive type of livelihood, social evil practices and orthodox traditions will be analyzed. Based on the findings, the author will suggest remedies and a clear roadmap to improve literacy levels. The author will formulate these suggestions to serve as recommendations to draft National Education Policy, 2020.

Keywords- Literacy rate, literacy Gap, causes, remedies.

Methodology: Qualitative and Quantitative methods are adopted. Data analysis is based mainly on secondary data.

(The paper is based upon secondary data. For the purpose of the study literacy rate among scheduled tribe – literacy among general people and rural, urban, male, and female, gender gap, GER, GPI, Dropout SCR and other indicators have been used. For comparison data of Jharkhand's general and ST have been used. Main sources of secondary data are- Census 2011, NSSO 71st

round survey, 2014, Statistics of School Education 2011-12, Economic Survey 2017-18 Govt. of India, Economic Survey 2016-17, Govt. of Jharkhand and Elementary Education Report Card 2015-16. Challenges and positive sign of elementary education)

Delimitation –The basic year for the study is 2011 because Jharkhand got the status of an independent State in the mid of the year 2000 and after getting statehood many new districts came into existence. Therefore, the district wise proper