CHAPTER - 29

EDUCATION

- **29.1** The two main sources of educational statistics are the educational institutions and households. The educational institutions provide the data on enrolment and number of teachers whereas information on aspects like literacy, educational level of population, private expenditure on education etc., is available only from households.
- **29.2** In India, a person aged 7 years and above who can both read and write with understanding in any language has been taken as literate. The Adult Literacy rate (15+ Age Group) is the percentage of population 15-24 years old who can both read and write with understanding a short simple statement on everyday life. The adult literacy rate has shown an upward trend for females as well as males. It has increased from 61% to 69.3% during the period 2001-2011. This indicator, being a statement about the stock of human capital, is slow to change. As per NSS 71st round findings, Adult Literacy rate stands 70.5% for year 2014.
- **29.3** The Gross Enrolment Ratio (GER) for a class-group is the ratio of the number of persons in the class-group to the number of persons in the corresponding official age-group. Thrust on providing primary education has yielded results with the GER presently exceeding hundred. The progress is visible across the social categories and gender with GER for SC, ST and girls shooting above hundred.



Trend in Gross Enrolment Ratio (GER) among ST students at Elementary level

Source: Educational Statistics at a Glance 2016

29.4 Education is the single most important factor to ensure gender equality and empowerment. The Gender Parity Index (GPI) is the ratio of the number of female students enrolled at primary, secondary and tertiary levels of education to the corresponding number of male student in each level. Thus GPI (based on GER) which is free from the effects of the population structure of the appropriate age group, provides picture of gender equality in education. During 2005-06 to 2014-15, substantial progress has been achieved towards gender parity in education.

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Sources & References:

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- 5. Various issues of All India Survey on Higher Education
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