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Exploring the Impact of Development Policies on Regional and Social Inequity in Education

Revisiting schools after 18 years



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The Policy

- “The State shall provide free and compulsory education to all children in the age group 6-14.” – Provided in the Indian Constitution as a Fundamental Right
- Development Planning to overcome regional disparities and social inequity – special focus on backward localities and marginalised groups

Design of the Study

- Three Clusters of villages – each forming a contiguous geographical unit
- **Three clusters Roughly represent three different positions on a continuum of development**
- Rajnandgaon cluster (now in Chhattisgarh) – a developed rural area – larger villages – closer to the main road (11 villages) – **TOP CLUSTER**
- Rewa Cluster – Less Developed Rural Area (11 villages) – **MIDDLE CLUSTER**
- Dindori Cluster – highly underdeveloped rural cluster – predominantly (*baiga*) tribal population (14 villages) – **BOTTOM CLUSTER**

Trend in Literacy Rate (%) – Then and Now

