

Beti Bachao and Beti Padhao (Save the Girl Child and Educate Her)

(A Geographical Analysis of Child Sex Ratio of Mumbai)

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Abstract

Beti Bachao and Beti Padhao (save the girl child and educate her) programme included more than 50 percent districts of Mumbai. In this paper, an attempt has been made to do an analysis geographically of the child sex ratio of Mumbai using census data 1961- 2011. Most districts have very low child sex ratio and included in Beti Bachao and Beti Padhao Programme while some districts have comparatively better child sex ratio and not included in programme. On an average child sex ratio has come down from 922 in 2001 to 883 in 2011. But this is far behind the average national sex ratio in India of 940 as per latest reports of Census 2011 Directorate.

Keywords: Child Sex Ratio, Census, Save Girl, Female Feticide.

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BetiBachao and Beti Padhao Programme

A National level Programme BetiBachao and Beti Padhao (save the girl child and educate her) started from Panipat, Haryana on 22ndJan,2015 by Honorable Prime Minister Sh. Narendra Modi. The main aim of this programme is to address the issue of decline in child sex-ratio. To increase child sex ratio a campaign was launched to ensure girls are born, nurtured, and educated without discrimination to become empowered citizens of this country with equal rights. In India, child sex ratio is defined as numbers of females' children per 1,000 males' children in the age group (0-6). Under this programme 100 districts from entire country were selected having child sex ratio below the national average (918) or showing decline trend in child sex ratio or both as per census 2011. Out of 100 districts 10 districts are from Maharashtra. Followed by Uttar Pradesh, Rajasthan with 10 districts each. A close second to Maharashtra is Punjab with 11 gender critical districts. The only 5 states account 53 gender critical districts out of total 100 districts (see table 1).

**Table: 1 India: districts under
BetiBachao and BetiPadhaoProgramme**

Sr. No.	State	No. of Districts
1	Haryana	12
2	Punjab	11
3	Utter Pradesh	10
4	Rajasthan	10
5	Maharashtra	10
6	Jammu and Kashmir	5
7	Gujarat	5
8	Delhi	5
9	Other states	32
10	Total	100

Source- Women and child development department Govt. of India

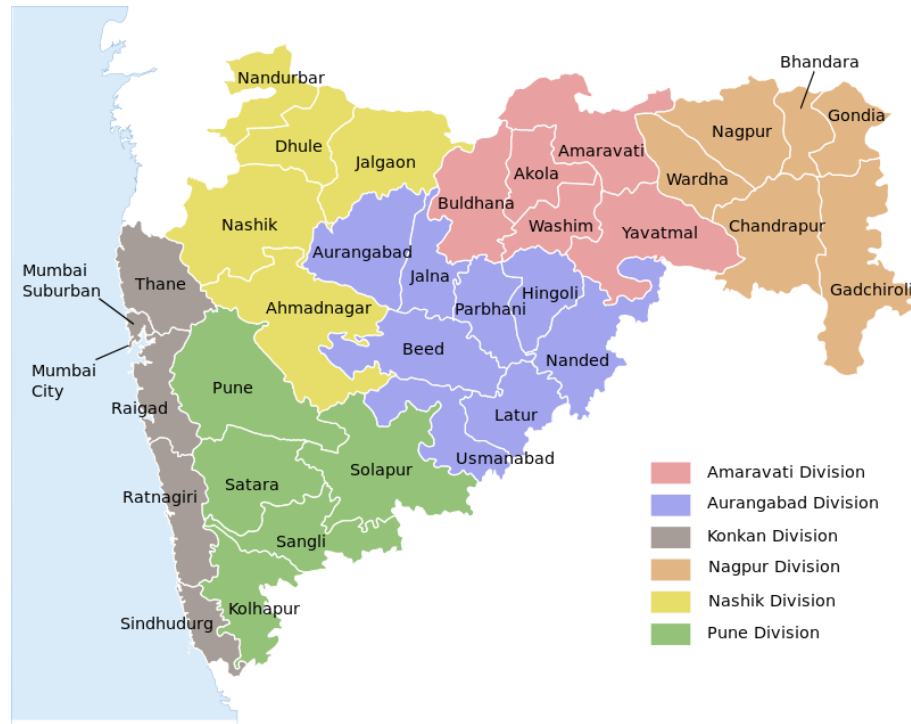
Study Area

Maharashtra is a state in the western region of India and is India's second-most populous state and third-largest state by area. Spread over 307,713 km² (118,809 sq. mi), it is bordered by the Arabian Sea to the west and the Indian states of Karnataka, Telangana, Goa, Gujarat, Chhattisgarh, Madhya Pradesh and the Union territory of Dadra and Nagar Haveli. It is also the world's second-most populous subnational entity. It has over 112 million inhabitants and its capital, Mumbai, has a population of approximately 18 million. Nagpur is Maharashtra's second capital as well as its winter capital.

The state's six divisions are further divided into 36 [districts](#), 109 sub-divisions and 357 talukas. Maharashtra's top five districts by population, as ranked by the 2011 Census, are listed:

1. Thane
2. Pune
3. Mumbai Suburban
4. Nashik
5. Nagpur

10 districts of Maharashtra covered under Beti Bachao; Beti Padhao campaign are: Beed, Jalna, Jalgaon, Ahmednagar, Aurangabad, Buldhana, Washim, Osmanabad, Kolhapur and Sangli.



Objective of the study

1. To analyze geographically the child sex ratio of districts included in Beti Bachao and Beti Padhao Programme and other districts of the state.
2. The present study analyses the trend and nature of district wise Child sex Ratio in Maharashtra.
3. To find out declining pattern of child sex ratio and over all sex ratio during 1961 - 2011.
4. To examine the impact of decline child sex ratio over the society.
5. To analyses the causes for decline girls in the state.

Literature Review

A 2011 study on 'Sex ratio at birth in suburban slums of Mumbai' shows the BMC's observation is off the mark. The paper by Holy Family Hospital's Ancilla Tragler, a pediatrician and community health consultant, had not only found a strong preference for male child in four suburban slums, but also that sex selective abortions were rampant. "A history of abortion was reported among 28% of the 304 families that were interviewed. Around 79% were induced abortions, of which 52% were purely to prevent the birth of a girl child," Tragler told TOI. She said it was shocking how poor families with limited means were ready to spend on abortion in private hospitals. The study also found that the preference for the male child was prevalent across communities and religious groups. The city's child sex ratio reached an all-time high in 2015, with 933 girls born per 1,000 boys, significantly ahead of the national average of 918. But several wards of the city bucked the progressive trend to register a worrying gap.

As per recently released BMC data, 11 of 24 wards registered a dip in the ratio, indicative of a strong bias towards the male child, compared with 2014. Cutting across socio-economic classes, the skewed ratio is visible right from the posh neighborhoods of Colaba, Nariman Point and Fort to the slum pockets of Govandi, Mankhurd and Bandra (East). It includes even the prosperous belts of Borivli and Magathane.

Despite dwindling childbirths due to a demographic shift over the years, the sex ratio in the island city (943) is better than the western (932) and eastern suburbs (927).

Ward C (Bhuleshwar, Pydhonie, Marine Lines and Dhobi Talao) once again recorded the lowest ratio, at 837. It is the only ward where less than 900 girls were born for 1,000 boys. The BMC has cited significantly fewer deliveries in the area--1,242 in 2015 compared to 7,000-

15,000 in other wards--as the primary reason. For the remaining 10 poor performing wards, there is hardly any reasonable explanation.

The sex ratio dip at Bandra, Khar and Santacruz (East) is particularly alarming. It plunged from 949 in 2014 to 903 last year. Areas like Deonar, Anushakti Nagar, Govandi and Mankhurd, too, showed a decrease from 935 in 2014 to 909 in 2015. "The decline is not justifiable in several pockets of the city and we will be considering the reasons. Our previous trends indicate that sex selection is not that common among slum dwellers. For certain areas in south Mumbai like ward A, a population shift to the suburbs is mainly to blame," said Dr Padmaja Keskar, executive health officer at BMC.

Health activists think poor implementation of the Preconception and Pre-Natal Diagnostic Techniques (PCPNDT) Act is directly responsible for the imbalance in certain wards. "The task force that cracks down on illicit clinics and doctors in the city have not met for the last two years. There are no drives or surprise checks on sonography centers or clinics," said Varsha Deshpande of the NGO Lek Ladki Abhiyan. She said there is a glaring lack of political will to tackle the issue of 'missing girls'.

According to social experts, a few other reasons, besides female feticide, could be leading to the decline in sex ratio. "There are families where the fertility behavior is aimed at having at least one male child. They follow the 'stopping rule behavior', which means that the family stops planning once they have a child of their gender preference. While it may not affect the sex ratio at birth, it makes a dent later," said P Arokiasamy of the International Institute of Population Science (IIPS).

Keskar insisted that all was not gloomy about the city's sex ratio, as certain areas have shown incredible change. Worli, Lower Parel, Prabhadevi and Mahalaxmi scored a near perfect

ratio of 991 in 2015, a commendable increase from 968 in 2014. Even Dongri has shown a jump from 926 in 2014 to 974 in 2015.

As of March 2017, in a disturbing trend indicative of a strong male bias, Maharashtra has recorded a dismal child sex ratio of 899 girls per 1,000 boys, according to the Family Planning department released reports.

Maharashtra's performance dropped significantly from the 2001 census, when it had 913 girls per 1,000 boys. Incidentally, the national average of 914 is also the worst India has had since Independence, the report said.

"The state's sex ratio was 914 in 2014 and 907 in 2015," it said.

Sangli police arrested a homeopath Babasaheb Appasaheb Khidrapure (42) from Miraj relating to the death of a pregnant woman during an abortion at his hospital and the subsequent recovery of 19 aborted fetuses wrapped in polythene bags near a stream in the village.

In worst of the cases in the state, Pune's child sex ratio has gone down to 838 (in 2016) from 891 (in 2015).

However, in Mumbai the ratio rose from 929 to 936 in 2016 and in Bhandara the ratio was reported to be 989.

"The drop in Maharashtra over the past decade is frightening and speaks of the overall neglect of girl children. A closer look reveals that nearly 4.69 lakh girls are 'missing' in the state, which shows that Maharashtra has not taken the practice of fighting sex determination seriously," experts said.

Meanwhile, the state government also appealed people to complaint the illegal sex determination on toll free no. 18002334475 or on the website which indicate a serious indirect implication on loopholes.

Theory

The study of sex ratio ventilates the demographic scenario of any States. Its calculation is of prime importance for understanding the population structure and its peculiarities within any territorial area. The sex ratio is defined as the number of females per 1,000 male population. The sex ratio is one of the significant indices of social but also economic conditions of an area and important device for regional analysis. Of all the demographic attributes of a population, the sex structure is an essential aspect of mankind. Sex ratio represents most radially recognizable components of the population. It is in advance and rising objective consequence with growing emphasis on the regional planning and regional approach to the population policy. An information about the pattern of Sex Ratio helps to enlighten the employment and consumption pattern, the social requirements of the people and perhaps the psychological characteristics of a society. In addition, the ratio can reflect the biological, social, economic and migration characteristics of the population. According to Census of the India, the general sex ratio in Maharashtra in 2001 was 922 which have experienced an upward trend up to 929 in 2011. In the state, the child sex ratio in the Maharashtra has experienced a declining trend from 913 in 2001 to 894 in 2011.

Sex ratio is the basic tool for the analysis of the composition of the population. It directly influences married people in a population and birth rate, it also determines the socioeconomic and political structure of the population. Several geographers have been made his work on the sex ratio is as follows. Explained sex ratio at district level in Haryana's population and observed

the deficiency of females which was attributable to low sex ratio at the time of birth and higher rate of mortality.

To calculate the sex-ratio of population formula will be used as given below.

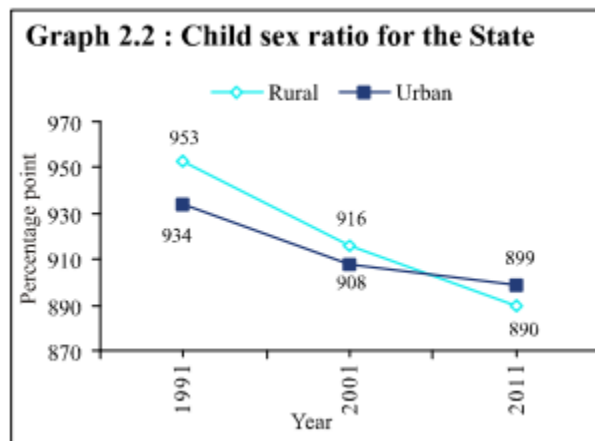
$$\text{Sex Ratio} = \frac{\text{Female Population}}{\text{Male Population}} \times 1000$$

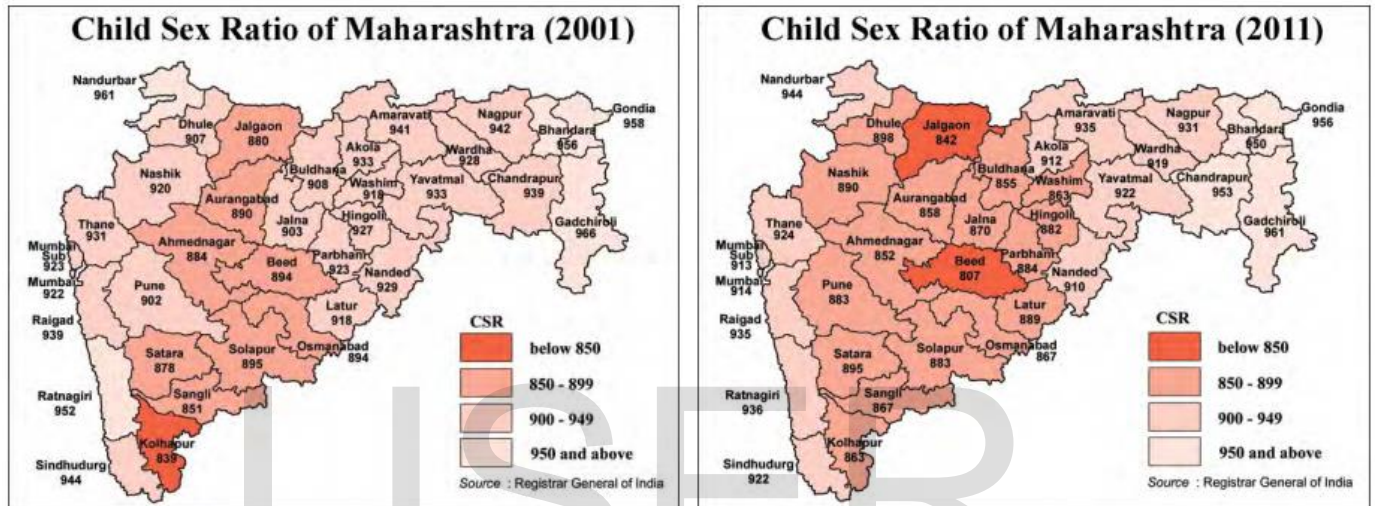
General Sex Ratio = Total female population / Total male population X 1000.

Temporal Pattern of Child Sex Ratio (0-6 Age Group)

According to Census of the India, the general sex ratio in Maharashtra in 2001 was 922 which have experienced an upward trend up to 929 in 2011. In the state, the child sex ratio in the Maharashtra has experienced a declining trend from 913 in 2001 to 894 in 2011.

The Child Sex Ratio (CSR) in the State has decreased by 19 points from 913 in 2001 to 894 in 2011. Beed district has the lowest value (807) of CSR in 2011 and has registered a sharp decline of 86 points during 2001-2011. CSR has slightly improved in Kolhapur (863), Satara (895), Sangli (867) and Chandrapur (953) districts during 2001-2011.





A study by the Gokhale Institute of Political and economics establishes a clear correlation between the number of sonography center and a decline in child sex ratio in Maharashtra, India. The report reveals that 78% of sonography clinics are registered in the rich Western Maharashtra district of Mumbai, Pune, Nashik, Sangli and Kolhapur (Sanjeevani and Nagarajan, 2006). There was the difference in urban and rural sex ratio, according to state sex ratio is lower than the nation (Krishnan and Chandana, 1973).

However, the Child sex ratio in the country as well as in Maharashtra has shown a declining trend since Census 1981. In the Maharashtra (73) the decreasing rate of sex is high from 1981- 2011. During the period 1961 the child sex ratio in state is 978 and now it is 883 in 2011. So, this is decreasing 73. Therefore, the efforts are required to solve the problem of gender imbalance regarding girl child. A decline child sex ratio in the population is also suggesting the

neglect of girl children in the society. The medical services, ultrasonography centers are responsible for decline rate of female child. The Maharashtra is the first state in the country who takes the action against the natal test & ultrasonography.

Trend of Child Sex Ratio

The trend of the given study explains the movements of child sex ratio over period. The child sex ratio (CSR) has been decline faster than the overall sex ratio (OSR). The OSR was 936 in 1961 and 925 in 2011 it means the OSR decrease only 11, whereas the decline CSR from 978 (1961) to 883 (2011), showing the reduction of 95 girls per thousand boys during six decades. Child sex ratio (0-6 years) at country level was 945 in 1991, 927 in 2001 and has now declined to 914 in Census 2011. In case of Maharashtra, it was 934 in 1991, 922 in 2001 and now stands at 883 in 2011. Figure no.1 shows the trends of sex ratio and child sex ratio (0-6 years) of Maharashtra for 1961-2011. It is seen that sex ratio of Maharashtra exceeded child sex ratio (0-6years) during the decade 1991-2001.

Table No:-01Trend of Child Sex Ratio and Overall Sex Ratio 1961 to 2011

Year	Census Year						Forecasting Year			
	1961	1971	1981	1991	2001	2011	2021	2031	2041	2051
CSR	978	972 (-6)	956 (-16)	917(-73)	913 (-34)	883 (-30)	867(-16)	847(-20)	827(-20)	808(-19)
OSR	936	930 (-6)	937 (+7)	934(-12)	922 (-9)	925(+3)	922(-3)	920 (-2)	917(-3)	915(-2)

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Trend of child sex ratio.

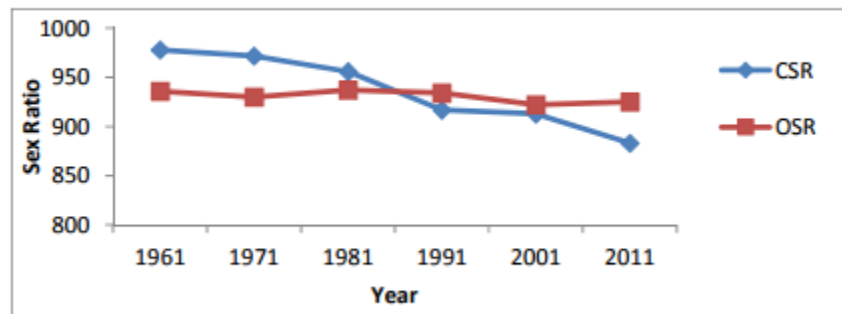


Fig. 01.

Rural –Urban Analysis of child sex ratio

The rural urban changing structures of child sex ratio are showing in the Fig.no- 2. In Maharashtra, the child sex ratio is higher in rural area than urban up to 2001 but the urban child sex ratio has been increased in 2011. The loss of female child in rural area is 95 from 1961 - 2011, whereas it is only 67 in urban area. The overall magnitude of Rural- Urban sex ratio has been rapidly decreases.

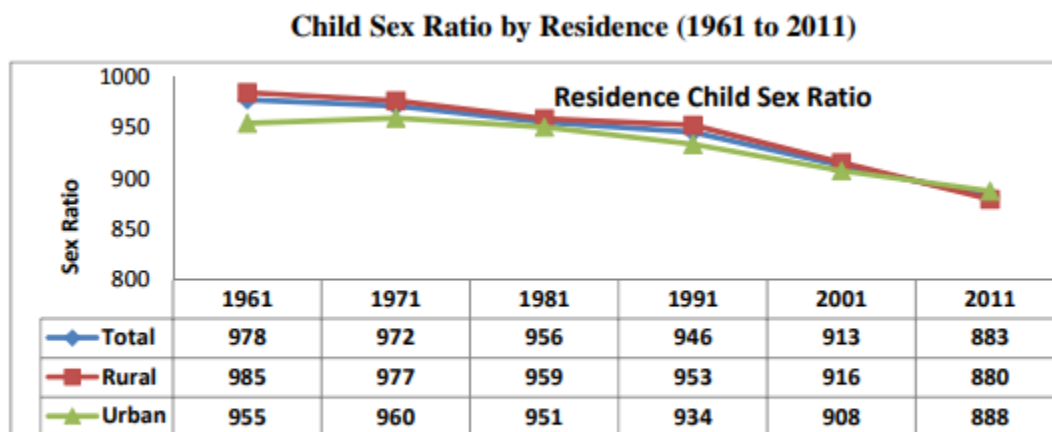


Fig. 2

Source: Provisional Population Census, 2011

Concentration of sex ratio

The analysis of concentration in sex ratio in the state is showing the child sex ratio is less than 850 were 0 in 1991, 01 in 2001 and 07 in 2011. About 22% district below 900 in 1991, 25% in 2001 and 57 % in 2011. So, the district wise concentrations of child sex are decreased in the given period. The number district of above 950 child sex ratios is 05 in 1991 and 2001 but it decreases in 01 in 2011.

Sex Ratio	Census Year		
	1991	2001	2011
Below 825	0	0	01
825-849	0	01	06
850-874	03	01	09
875-899	05	07	04
900-924	08	10	07
925 -949	14	11	07
Above 950	05	05	01
Total	35	35	35

District wise variation of child sex ratio

District wise variation of child sex ratio for 1991 -2011 is given in the table no.3. It is observed that the highest variation in sex ratio is found in Bid district and such things are also observed in Osmanabad (74), Hingoli (67), Jalna (67), Washim (62). The reduction in sex ratio is observed in 35 districts ranging from 75 to 97 in 01 districts, 50 to 75 in 09 districts, 25 to 50 in 11 districts and 0 to 25 in 12 districts. Only in Sangli (+12) and Chandrapur (+1) and there is a significant increasing of child sex ratio.

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Table03. Sex Ratio of Child Population in Age group 0-6 yrs.

District Name	1991	2001	2011	Variation 2011 - 1991	Variation 2011 -2001
Nandurbar	966	961	932	-34	-29
Dhule	907	907	876	-31	-31
Jalgaon	867	880	829	-38	-51
Buldana	915	908	842	-73	-66
Akola	936	933	900	-36	-33
Washim	921	918	859	-62	-59
Amravati	947	941	927	-20	-14
Wardha	934	928	916	-18	-12
Nagpur	949	942	926	-23	-16
Bhandara	958	956	939	-19	-17
Gondiya	964	958	944	-20	-14
Gadchiroli	974	966	956	-18	-10
Chandrapur	944	939	945	1	6
Yavatmal	942	933	915	-27	-18
Nanded	944	929	897	-47	-32
Hingoli	935	927	868	-67	-59
Parbhani	926	923	866	-60	-57
Jalna	914	903	847	-67	-56
Aurangabad	884	890	848	-36	-42
Nashik	936	920	882	-54	-38
Thane	933	931	918	-15	-13
Mumbai (Suburban)	913	923	910	-3	-13
Mumbai	913	922	874	-39	-48
Raigarh	943	939	924	-19	-15

Pune	906	902	873	-33	-29
Ahmadnagar	890	884	839	-51	-45
Bid	898	894	801	-97	-93
Latur	923	918	872	-51	-46
Osmanabad	927	894	853	-74	-41
Solapur	897	895	872	-25	-23
Satara	884	878	881	-3	3
Ratnagiri	954	952	940	-14	-12
Sindhudurg	946	944	910	-36	-34
Kolhapur	859	839	845	-14	6
Sangli	850	851	862	12	11

Source: Census Report of Maharashtra and Compiled by researcher.

Top five and Bottom five districts in the state

In Maharashtra among the district while comparing the child sex ratio Beed district is in the bottom of child sex ratio (801) followed by Jalgaon (829), Ahmadnagar (839), Buldana (842), Kolhapur (845). Gadchiroli which has 956 child sex ratios 956 districts Chandrapur (945), Gondiya (944) and Ratnagiri (940) and Bhandara (939) whereas the sex ratio is highest in the state.

Table 04. Highest & Lowest District according to child sex ratio

S.No	District	1991	District	2001	District	2011
Lowest Sex Ratio						
1.	Sangli	850	Kolhapur	839	Bid	801
2	Kolhapur	859	Sangli	851	Jalgaon	829
3	Jalgaon	867	Satara	878	Ahmadnagar	839
4	Aurangabad	884	Jalgaon	880	Buldana	842
5	Satara	884	Ahmadnagar	884	Kolhapur	845
Highest Sex Ratio						
1	Gadchiroli	974	Gadchiroli	966	Gadchiroli	956
2	Nandurbar	966	Nandurbar	961	Chandrapur	945
3	Gondiya	964	Gondiya	958	Gondiya	944
4	Bhandara	958	Bhandara	956	Ratnagiri	940
5	Ratnagiri	954	Ratnagiri	952	Bhandara	939

Source: Compiled by researcher.

Causes of Decline Sex Ratio

There are several causes of decline the number of girl child in the state. Sex selective abortion, son preference view and high infant mortality of female child; neglect the girls, male oriented society, gender bias, ultrasonography Centre for natal test these factors are influence the child sex ratio.

1. Sex ratio at birth (SRB)

As per NFHS the normal sex at birth is decreasing during the period of 1992-2006 about 82 female children. The decline rate of child sex ratio is indicating the increasing sex selective abortion in the state.

Table No-05. Child Sex Ratio at Birth in Maharashtra

NFHS -I (1992-93)	NFHS -II (1998-99)	NFHS -III (2005-06)
942	904	860

Source: National Family Health Survey in India 1992-93, 98-99 and 2005-06.

2. Strong Son Preference

As per survey of NEHS-II about 84.5 percent family wants at least one son, whereas 79.3 percent want at least one daughter. Only 35 per cent of women with two female children are happy and they do not want a son. If a family has a son and a daughter, contraception is resorted to by at least 63 per cent of women. If the two children are boys, then the percentage are going on 79 per cent.

Table No- 06. Son preference ratio

If first birth was girls	Total	Rural	Urban	If first birth was boys	Total	Rural	Urban
	749	736	782		1168	1199	1101

Source- Jha.Prabhat, et.al.2006

The analysis of son preference data of the state, if the first birth was girl the people are preferred the boy so, child sex ratio is low however if first birth was boy the sex ratio is high. Child sex ratio affects the son preference view.

3. Ultrasonography center

According to the Population Research Center of Gokhale Institute of Politics and Economics, Pune the correlation of child sex ratio and Ultrasonography centers in Maharashtra is positive. Only 78% Sonography center in the state are registered other 22% are illegal in Western Maharashtra and Mumbai region. The Sonography center is less than 20 in Gadachiroli, Chandrapur, Gondiya, Nandurbar and Bhandara district whereas sex ratio is more than 939. According to the study which women have gone in Antenatal care (ANC) and sonography there is sex ratio only 893 and births to women who have not gone for any ANC there is sex ratio is 983.

4. Infant Mortality

The percentage of infant child mortality is reflecting into child sex ratio. According to the data of RGI the infant mortality rate of female is high comparing to the male. The table no. 07 shows the infant mortality rate of Maharashtra.

Table No-07. Infant mortality rate.

Year	1981	1991	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009
Male	82	60	43	48	32	31	34	35	33	33	28
Female	75	59	48	42	54	42	37	36	35	33	33

Source: Sample Registration System RGI.

5. Gender issues in politics

The approach against the girls in the society is negative as compare to the son. In the politics of Maharashtra there is very little participation of female before 2011. The governments of Maharashtra pass the bill of 50 % reservation of women in the local bodies. Before that the participation of women in the local bodies is less than 30

percent. Same thing the percentage of women participation in the Legislative Council and Assembly is below 10 percent from 1962 to 2009.

Table 8. Women’s Participation in Local Bodies as on 1 April 2001

Municipal Corporation		Municipal Council		Zilla Parishad	
<i>% of Corporators</i>	<i>% of Chairpersons in Standing Committees</i>	<i>% of Members</i>	<i>% of Chairpersons in Standing Committees</i>	<i>% of Members</i>	<i>% of Chairpersons in Standing Committees</i>
24.54	21.90	18.70	72.38	55.64	21.61
Panchayat Samitis		Gram Panchayats			
<i>% of Members</i>	<i>% of chairpersons</i>	<i>% of Members</i>	<i>% of Sarpanches</i>		
32.72	39.73	28.12	29.40		

Source: Directorate of Economics and Statistics, Mumbai.

6. Economic condition of people

The economic conditions of people are adversary influenced by the child sex ratio. Economic condition of people is well in the sugar belt (Sangali, Kolhapur, Jalgaon, Ahmednagar, Solapur) where is the sex ratio is low. However, the economic condition of people is poor in tribal (Gadachiroli, Chandrapur, Gondiya, Nandurbar and Bhandara) district. Where the child sex ratio is high, the people of rich community mostly preferred the sex selective abortion and pre-natal test.

Methodology

The study has been accomplished mainly through secondary data which have been collected from census records published by the Government of Maharashtra. Apart from these, many articles published in various National and International journals have also been consulted for the purpose.

Concluding remarks

1. In the state loss of female child is higher in rural areas as compared to the urban.
2. If the reduction of child sex ratio continues the projected child sex ratio up to 2051 it will be 808 girls per 1000 boys.
3. The highest sex ratio is constant in Gadachiroli, Nanadurbar, Gondiya and Bhandara which are tribal districts where the status of women is likely to be high and positive bias in favor of girls as compare to the develop district.
4. A declining sex ratio in the population is also strongly suggestive of the neglect of girl children and sex selective abortions where available medical services are used to realize that.
5. The sex ratio in Maharashtra (883) for child in the age group of 0-6 years is below that of the national figures, which is at 914 (2011). The reason for this may be attributed to the strong son preference approach in Maharashtra.
6. The sex ratio of total population is increasing in 2011 whereas the sex ratio of child population has decreased.
7. It is required to take strong action against the illegal ultrasound centers in the state.

Causes of increase in Sex Ratio

1. *Initiatives to implement Beti Bachao Beti Padhao* - In Jalgaon (Maharashtra), the district collector introduced the guddi-gudda board, that displayed disaggregated birth statistics, and acted as a medium for advocacy and information by showing movies.

2. *Improvement of Beed District:* As of January 2015, just at the beginning of this decade, Beed in Maharashtra's Marathwada region made news nationwide because heinous crime of female feticide, leading to a serious crackdown on several medical practitioners. It was one of those districts where child sex ratio had plummeted alarmingly to 807 girls per 1000 boys, against the national average of 917.

Alarm bells began to ring when the rampant practice of pre-natal sex selection became known with the connivance of several reputed medical practitioners in Beed. The Pre-conception and Pre-Natal Diagnostic Techniques (Prevention of Sex Determination) Act, enacted by Parliament of India in 1994, bans use of sex selection techniques before or after conception and prevents the misuse of prenatal diagnostic technique for sex selective abortion. However, due to laxity in enforcement, there was no letup in discrimination against the girl child. The state government woke up to the challenge and announced a slew of measures to stop female feticide and catch its perpetrators. Teams were formed to crack down on illegal ultrasound centers indulging in sex determination tests. Food & Drug Administration kept a watch on the sale of drugs and medicines required for medical termination of pregnancy. Action was taken against 12 chemists in Beed district who failed to provide satisfactory replies to the show because notices served upon them.

3. To supplement the enforcement programme, a massive awareness drive was initiated to drive home the importance of girl child. Besides the public service advertisements broadcast over television and radio, Amir Khan's TV show

‘Satyamev Jayate’ also helped raise the level of awareness about female feticide.

4. Voluntary Organizations (NGOs) came forward to supplement government’s efforts in this girl child mission. In Beed, organizations like ‘Tee Foundation’ and ‘Marathwada Lok Vikas Manch’ came forward to adopt talukas, in a bid to improve child sex ratio. The Voluntary Organizations conducted house to house surveys and listed out the reasons for adverse sex ratio.
5. While the government supervised strict enforcement of the PCPNDT Act, holistic health services were made available to pregnant women through regular health checkup, vitamin administration and nutrition supplement under the National Rural Health Mission, NRHM. Special training programmes were held for ASHA (Accredited Social Health Activist) volunteers and Anganwadi Sevikas for skill upgrade. Voluntary Organizations played a key role in inter-personal communication, by reaching out of women during their free time.
6. Sincere efforts of government, voluntary organizations and citizen activists began to show results. Beed district recorded an over 100 points jump in sex ratio during since the last census count in 2011. Under the Beti Bachao. Beti Padhao campaign, the CSR target for Beed has been fixed at 925 by 2015-16, which is much higher than the targets fixed for other low child sex ratio districts like Jalgaon, Aurangabad, Buldhana etc. Beed has shown that through enforcement and by creating community awareness the issue of adverse CSR

can be successfully tackled. But the, activists say there is still a long way to go for Beed to catch up with the ideal sex ratio of 951.

7. Strict implementation of Right to Education Act, universal enrolment of girls, promotion of girl friendly schools, steps to reduce girls drop-out ratio are part of the 'Beti Padhao' initiative. There is also a thrust on reversing 'son-centric' customs and rituals.
8. Bollywood actor Madhuri Dixit has been roped in as the brand ambassador of 'Beti Bachao-Beti Padhao campaign' so that the initiative is well understood by common masses through media figures.
9. The key interventions include registration of pregnancies in the first trimester with Anganwadi Kendras, improved access to ICDS services, increasing institutional deliveries, registration of births and strict monitoring of Pre-Conception and Pre-Natal Diagnostic Techniques act, as part of 'Beti Bacho' initiative.
10. 2011 Census Child Sex Ratio and 2015-16 district wise targets are as follows:
Beed – 2011 CSR 807 (target 925), Jalna – 870 (938), Jalgaon 842 (899), Ahmednagar 852 (929), Aurangabad 858 (880), Buldhana -855 (872) Washim -863 (928), Osmanabad 867 (928), Kolhapur -863 (910), Sangli 862 (865)
11. Awareness programmes of govt. departments, local NGO and some village panchayats help in increase in the improvement of the issue. Districts which have adopted the scheme had observed an improved trend in child sex ratio.

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