1. Objectives of the Study:

Considerable regional diversity in terms of social, economic and demographic characteristics prevails in India. This is true not only among the states but among the districts of same state. In general, these striking variations in level of education, female work participation, nutritional standards, infant mortality rate, employment, income distribution, political commitment etc. among the states in the livelihood of the common people and their interaction. Thus any country level study is like to hide variations at lower level. As well as several studies reported that relationship between female literacy and socio-economic-demographic variables vary from country to country, continent to continent, developed countries to developing countries and even within a country or state. Hence it is necessary to study these characteristics at the districts level.

This study involves the analysis of the following aspects in all the districts of India.

- Assessing the levels of literacy, among females as well as the extent of gender disparity in literacy in India, all States and its districts using Provisional Totals of Census 2001 and 2011 data.
- To examines relationship between female literacy rate with each of Infant Mortality Rate (IMR), Child Mortality Rate (CMR), Total Fertility Rate (TFR), Female Work Participation Rate (FWPR) and mean number of births per ever married woman (MNB) at district level for India using Census 2001 data.
- To examine the possible impact of the educational attainment of female on their fertility behavior in India and its states using Census 2001 data.
- Assessing the factors (selected socio-economic and demographic variables) responsible for increase in female literacy rate in the pooled data of the districts of India using Census 2001 data.
- Assessing the factors (selected socio-economic and demographic variables) responsible for increase in female literacy rate in the selected states of India using Census 2001 data.
- To assess the time required for 100 percent female literacy in India, all States and its districts using Provisional Totals of Census 2001 and 2011 data.
3. Research Hypothesis:

An attempt will be made to test the following statements in the proposed study.

a) To examine the relationship between female literacy rate with each of Infant Mortality Rate (IMR), Child Mortality Rate (CMR), Total Fertility Rate (TFR), Female Work Participation Rate (FWPR) and mean number of births per ever married woman (MNB) at district level for India using Census 2001 data.

b) There is predictive relationship between female literacy rate and selected socio-economic and demographic variables in the pooled data of the districts of India.

c) There is predictive relationship between female literacy rate and selected socio-economic and demographic variables in the selected states separately.