Education helps to empower women, protect children, alleviate poverty and promote human rights and democracy.

With net attendance rate (NAR) at 92\%, Bhutan is on track to achieve universal primary enrolment by 2013. However, one out of every 10 children aged 6 to 12 years is out of school. Concerted efforts are needed to enrol the remaining 6-12 years old children.

In Bhutan, though primary completion rate is $90 \%$, children in the poorest quintile have much lower completion rate at about 65\% compared to those in the highest quintile at $94 \%$. Level of mother's education has positive relation with higher primary school completion rate.

PRIMARY COMPLETION RATE BY DIFFERENT BACKGROUND CHARACTERISTICS


A girl's education has enormous social, economic and political implications of a nation. Higher female literacy rate has relationship with low maternal and neonatal mortality, early marriage and better economic and social status of a community. On the other hand young women who are not literate are more likely to suffer from poverty, illness and malnutrition.

## SUMMARY OF EDUCATION INDICATORS, BMIS 2010

| Indicator | National Average |
| :--- | :--- |
| Literacy rate among young women | $56 \%$ |
| School readiness | $1.4 \%$ |
| Net intake rate in primary education | $68 \%$ |
| Primary school net attendance rate (adjusted) | $92 \%$ |
| Secondary school net attendance rate (adjusted) | $55 \%$ |
| Children reaching last grade of primary | $94 \%$ |
| Primary completion rate | $90 \%$ |
| Transition rate to secondary school | $89 \%$ |
| Gender parity index (primary school) | 1.02 |
| Gender parity index (secondary school) | 1.03 |

BMIS assessed literacy based on the ability of women to read a short simple statement or on school attendance. More than half ( $56 \%$ ) of women aged 15-24 years in Bhutan are literate. Of women who stated that primary school was their highest level of education, 44\% were actually able to read the statement shown to them.

Literacy rate among young women 15-24 years is higher in urban areas (78\%) compared to those in rural areas (46\%). It is even less among young women from the poorest households (21\%) compared to those in the richest ones (85\%).

PERCENTAGE OF LITERACY RATE AMONG YOUNG WOMEN (15-24YEARS) BY DZONGKAG


