

Booklet highlights dropout trends of students at all levels

By our staff reporter

Sixty four per cent of students who join junior colleges every year eventually turn out to be eleventh standard drop outs!

That is not all, 'Pages from

MH 28.11.97

percentage of dropouts in the State during the academic year 94-95 was only 10 per cent at the second standard level. However, the percentage of students dropping out has been

limited to teaching them traditional arts and scriptures, before independence. However, social reforms in 1854 changed all that and there were 626 schools for girls with



Gangutai Patwardhan releasing a unique calendar and resource booklet on 'History of Women's Education in Maharashtra' published by Aalochana. Also in the picture (From L to R) are Ms Nirmala Sathe, Phulvantakka Zodage, Ms Nirmala Purandare and Medha Lele.

History, Glimpses of Women's Education in Maharashtra', a resource booklet published by Aalochana on Thursday, also revealed that 69 per cent girls and 58 per cent boys do not continue their education after the eleventh standard. The rate of dropouts in schools is comparatively higher and that of girls that take up higher studies or enroll for professional courses also comes down at a later further stage, the study reveals.

The booklet was released at the hands of Gangutai Patwardhan, a crusader in the girls guides and the educational movement in the State, at a function held on Thursday. The publication mentioned that the

seen to rise steadily at higher levels and reaches an average of 64 per cent at the level of standard eleven.

The percentage of girl students dropping out has also been on the rise as compared to that of boys, the study indicates. For example, 27 per cent girls studying in standard five drop out against 21 per cent boys in the same class. In the eighth standard, the percentage of girls dropping out had risen to 53 while that of boys levelled off at 42.

The booklet also takes a brief overview of education in the country. It points out that due to the underlying fears of a patriarchal society, female education was informal and

a total of 21,735 students in them.

After independence, women's education has ceased to be a debatable issue and it has been incorporated into the Constitution as a fundamental right of women, the booklet points out. The booklet has been compiled with the aim of providing information about early educationists of the State and their times.

The booklet will be made available to schools, educational institutions and to non-governmental organisations as resource material. It includes brief notes on lady doctors, novelists, scientists and others who have been path-breakers in the past.