Gender bias is deeply ingrained in our society and women lag behind men as shown by most of the socio-economic indicators like income, literacy and access to developmental facilities. Literacy among tribal women is low as to their male counterparts. On this background an evaluative study was conducted to know the educational development and reasons of educational backwardness of women in tribal areas of Lahoul-Spiti and Kinnaur in Himachal Pradesh. The researcher made use of quantitative and qualitative approaches. The trend analysis was used to look into the pattern of development of education over the period since 1971. Survey method of research was used. Techniques of interview and questionnaire to trace the different reasons of educational backwardness of tribal women from students, teachers, parents, community leaders and educational administrators were used.

The findings of the study revealed that the progress of women literacy is faster as compared to the progress made by men but the percentage of illiterate women is still higher than that of men. There has been expansion of educational institutions in the areas of study but there is a need to establish more higher education institution in both the districts. Infrastructural facilities are available in most of the schools but there is the grade increases. Reasons for irregular attendance and dropout were poor economic condition, household workload, ill health, distant schools and lack of transport facilities.