

⇒ Introduction ⇒

- People make and use resources. They are also considered as Resources having different quality.
- Population (Total number of persons inhabiting a particular place like city, state country etc), is the central element in Social Studies. It is the point of reference from which all other elements are observed.
- Human being are producers as well as consumers of the resources so information about population of a country such as their size, distribution are important.
- A census is an official enumeration of population done periodically. In India the first census was held in the year 1872.
- The census of India provides us with information regarding the population of our country. The data provide by the census cover below three major question about the population.
 - Population Size and distribution
 - Population Growth and processes of population change.
 - characteristic or qualities of the population.

⇒ Population Size and distribution:

- As per March 2011, India's population stood at 1210.6 million which account for 17.5 percent of the world's population.
- According to the Uttar Pradesh is the most populous state of India with a population size of 199 million, which account for 16 percent of total India's population.
- Sikkim population - 0.69 million (6.9 lakh) while Lakshadweep 65,998 thousand people.
- The five states, Uttar Pradesh, Maharashtra, Bihar, West Bengal and Andhra Pradesh hold almost half of Indian population (49%).

⇒ India's population Distribution by Density:

population density is calculated as the number of persons per unit area. The population density of India in the year 2011 was 382 person per Sq. Km. That's why India is considered one of the most densely populated countries in the world.

⇒ Population Growth:

- Population Growth refers to the change in the number of inhabitants of a country.

or territory during a specific period of time. Say during the last ten years

- The change can be expressed in two ways.

→ In terms of absolute numbers.

→ In terms of percentage change per year.

- The absolute number is calculated by simply subtracting the earlier population (e.g. that of 1991) from the later population (e.g. that of 2011) it is referred to as absolute increase.

- The rate of population is studied in percentage per annum, e.g. a rate of increase of 2 percent per annum means that in a given year, there was an increase of two person for every 100 person in the base population. This is referred to as the annual growth rate.

- India's population has been steadily increasing from 361 million in 1951 to 1210.6 million in 2011.

- Since 1981, however, the rate of growth started declining gradually as birth rate decline rapidly. But India has a very large population so when a low

annual rate is applied to a very large population. It yields a large absolute increase.

- At this Growth rate, India may overtake china in 2045 to become the most populous country in the world.

⇒ Processes of population change / Growth :

- There are three main processes of change of population: birth rate, death rates and migration.
- Birth rate is the number of live births per thousand person in a year. In India birth rate have always been higher than death rates.
- Death rate is the number of deaths per thousand persons in a year. In India there is rapid decline in death rates which is the main cause of growth of the Indian population.
- Migration is the movement of people across regions and territories. This can be internal (within the country) or international (between the countries)

- In India, most migrations have been from rural to urban areas because of adverse condition of poverty and unemployment in the rural areas and increased employment opportunities under better living condition in the city.

- EFFECTS of Migrations:

- It change the population size.
- It also change the population composition of urban and rural population in term of age and sex composition.

- In India, the Urban ← rural migration has resulted in steady increase in the percentage of population in cities and towns.

⇒ Age composition:

- The age composition of a population refers to the number of people in different age group in a country.

- Population of a country can be grouped into three categories.

→ children (below 15 years): Economically unproductive, need to be provided with food,

clothing, education and medical care comprises 34.4% of total India's population.

→ Working Age (15-59 years):

Economically productive and biologically reproductive. considered as working population. comprises 6.9% of total India's population.

→ Aged (Above 59 years): can be economically productive though they may have retired. May be working but they are not available for employment through recruitment. comprises 58.7% of total India's population.

⇒ Sex Ratio:

- Sex Ratio is defined as the number of Females per 1000 males in the population.
- Importance: measuring the extent of equality between males and Females in a society at a given time. An India Sex Ratio has always remained unfavourable to Females.

census year	Sex Ratio
1951	956
1961	951
1971	930
1981	934
1991	929
2001	933
2011	943

⇒ Literacy rates:

- According to the census of 2011, a person aged 7 years and above who can read and write with understanding in any language is treated as literate. Low level of literacy are a serious obstacle for economic improvement.
- The literacy rate in the country as per the census of 2011 is 73%; 80.9 percent for males and 64.6 percent for females.

⇒ Occupational Structure:

- The distribution of the population according to different type of occupation is referred to as the occupational structure.

• occupations are generally classified into three categories.

(a) Primary activity (related to land) agriculture, animal husbandary, forestry, fishing, mining and quarrying etc.

(b) Secondary activity (related to industry) it include manufacturing, industry, building and construction work etc.

(c) Tertiary activity (includes transport communications, commerce, administration and other services.)

⇒ Health: Health is an important component of population composition, which affect the process of development. The substantial improvement in public health in our country is the result of many factor such as.

- Prevention of infectious diseases.
- Application of modern medical practices in diagnosis and treatment of ailments.

⇒ Adolescent population: Adolescents are grouped in the age group of 10 to 19 years. They are the most

important resource for the future. It constitutes one-fifth of the total population of India. Nutrition requirements of adolescents are higher than those of normal child or adult

⇒ National population Policy:-

The National population policy (NPP) 2000 provides a policy & framework for imparting free and compulsory education ~~in~~ school up to 14 years of age. It also helps in:

- Reducing infant mortality rate to below 30 per 1000 live birth
- Achieving universal immunisation of children against all vaccine-preventable diseases.
- Promoting delayed marriage for girls, and making family welfare a people-centred programme

⇒ NPP 2000 and Adolescents:

NPP 2000 also put emphasis on other important needs of adolescents including protection from unwanted pregnancies and sexually transmitted diseases (STDs). It aims towards encouraging:

- Delayed marriage and child bearing

- Education of adolescents about the risks of unprotected sex.
- Making contraceptive services accessible and affordable.
- Providing food supplements.
- Nutritional services.
- Strengthening legal measures to prevent child marriage

