



RAYAT SHIKSHAN SANSTHA'S

R. B. Narayanrao Borawake College

SHRIRAMPUR, DIST. AHMEDNAGAR - 413 709, (M.S.)

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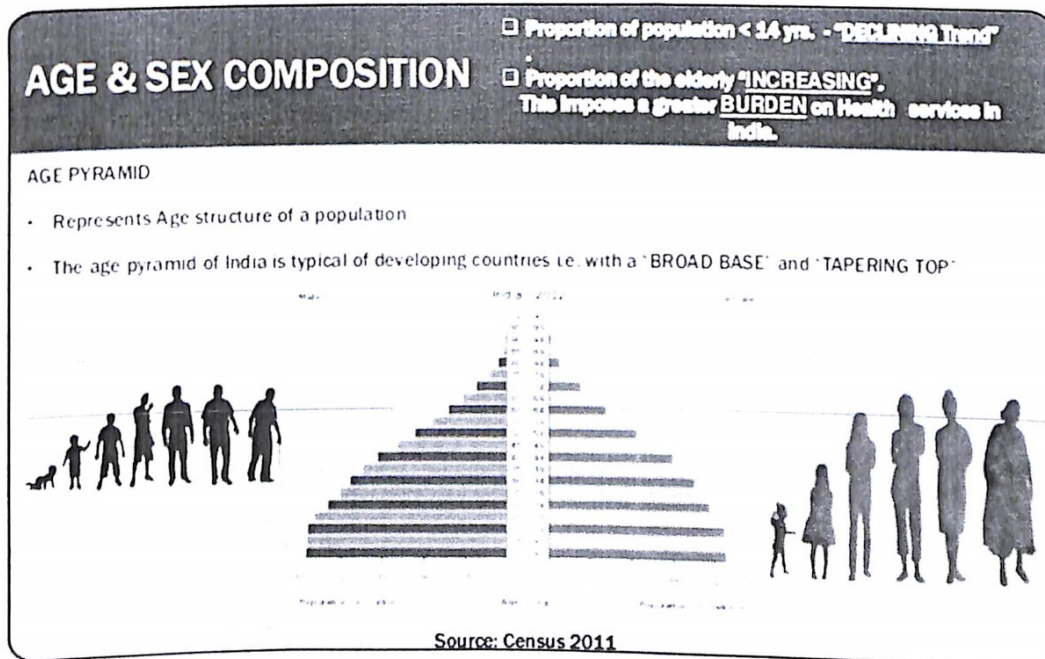


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ON

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Impact of overpopulation on Indian Economy

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ABSTRACT :Every nook and corner of India is a clear display of increasing population. In the metro stations, roads, railway station, bus stops, hospitals, airports and all other places are over crowded at any time of the day. This is a clear indication of overpopulation in India. India is the second most population country of the world after China. Overpopulation does not depend only on the size or density of the population, but on the ration of population to available sustainable resources. It also depends on how resources are managed and distributed throughout the population. This study examines the effects of overpopulation of Economic Development of India. The population has positive impact as well as negative impact on Indian Economy. Present paper examined the courses, impact. Effects and to control the overpopulation. This paper also examines the trends in birth rate, death rate and trends in Indian population.

Introduction :Indian economy is facing several challenges relating to its process of economic development, the challenge of rapid growth of population is central and serious problem. The growth rate of population in India is very high because of large difference between birth rate and death rate. Fast declining death rate due to better sanitation and health facilities and high birth rate is the main reason of high population growth rate. Natural resources can't increase according to the population growth, so Indian economy faced many problems due to overpopulation like, economic development, unemployment, poverty, environmental degradation, inequality and some others problems.

Objective of study :-

The main objective of this study is that to know about the trends in the population of India and to know that Indian economy is facing the problem of overpopulation in real.

Table No. 1 : Size and Growth of India's population (1951-2011)

Census Year	Population (Crore)	Increases or Decrease (Crore)	Average Annual Growth rate (%)
1951	36.10	4.24	1.25
1961	43.92	7.82	1.96
1971	54.81	10.89	2.22
1981	68.33	13.52	2.20

1991	84.63	16.30	2.14
2001	102.9	18.07	1.93
2011	121.02	18.12	1.76

Source : Jain T. R. and Majhi B. D., 2014.

In the table 1 – Growth of population is not uniform in the period from 1951 to 2011. Population growth is increasing from 1951 to 1981 there was an alarming rise in population. In 1971 the growth of population was highest, after this it decline but volume of population is increasing in 2011. It was 1.76 which is very high in the comparison of world population growth rate.

Table No. 2 : Death rate and Birth rate in India (1951-2011)

Census Year	Birth rate	Death rate	Growth rate (Per annum in percent)
1941-1951	39.9	27.4	12.5
1951-1961	41.7	22.8	18.9
1961-1971	37.9	19.0	18.9
1971-1981	36.0	15.0	21.0
1981-1991	32.5	11.4	21.1
1991-2001	25.5	8.1	18.9
2001-2011	22.1	7.2	14.9

Source : Census of India 2011, Economic Survey 2011-12.

Birth rate refers to number of children born per thousand persons in a year. Death rate refers to number of persons who die per thousand persons in a year. From table 2 – it is clear that during 1951 to 2011 both birth rate and death rate has fallen. But death rate has fallen with rapid rate than birth rate. Because of this difference between them is the cause of arising the situation of population explosion.

Causes of overpopulation :-

The two main common causes leading to overpopulation in India are –

- ❖ The birth rate is still higher than the death rate.
- ❖ The fertility rate due to the population polycys and other measures has been falling but even than it is much higher compared to other countries.

The above causes are interrelated to the various social issues in our country which are leading to overpopulation.

- ❖ **Early marriage and universal marriage system :-** Even though legally the marriageable age of a girl is 18 years, the concept of early marriage still prevails and getting married at a young age prolongs the child bearing age. Also, in India, marriage is a sacred obligation and a universal practice, where almost every woman is married at the reproductive age.
- ❖ **Poverty and Illiteracy :-** Another factor for the rapid growth of population is poverty. Impoverished families have this notion that more the number of members in the family, more will be the numbers to earn income. Some feel that more children are needed to look after them in their old age. Also hunger can be cause of death of their children and hence the need for more children. Strange but true, Indian still lag behind the use of contraceptives and birth control methods, many of them are not willing to discuss or rate totally unaware about them. Illiteracy is thus another cause of over population.
- ❖ **Age old cultural norm :-** Sons are the bread earners of the families in India. This age old thought puts considerable pressure on the parents to produce children till a male child is born more than better.
- ❖ **Illegal migration :-** Last but not the least, we cannot ignore the fact that illegal migration is continuously taking place from Bangladesh, Nepal leading to increased population density.

Effects of Overpopulation :-

Even after 69 years of independence, the scenario of our country is not good, due to overpopulation. Some major impacts of high population are as follows –

- ❖ **Unemployment :-** Generating employment for a huge population in a country like India is very difficult. The number of illiterate persons increases every year. Unemployment rate is thus showing an increasing trends.
 - ❖ **Manpower utilization :-** The number of jobless people in on the rise in India due to economic depression and slow business development and expansion activities.
 - ❖ **Pressure on infrastructure :-** Development of infrastructural facilities in unfortunately not keeping pace with the growth of population. The result is lack of transportation, communication, housing, education, healthcare etc. There has been an increase in the number of slums, overcrowded houses, traffic congestion etc.
 - ❖ **Resource utilization :-** land, areas, water resources, forests are over exploited. There is also scarcity of resources.
 - ❖ **Decreased production and increased costs :-** Food production and distribution have not been able to catch up with the increasing population and hence the costs of production have increased. Inflation is the major consequence of overpopulation.
 - ❖ **Inequitable income distribution :-** In the face of an increasing population, there is an unequal distribution of income and inequalities with in the country widen.
- Steps to control population in India :-**

The Government of India, politicians, policy makers should initiate a bold population policy so that the economic growth of the country can keep pace with the demands of a growing population. Major steps which have been already implemented but still need to be emphasized more to control population. Increasing the welfare and status of women and girls, spread of education, increasing awareness for the use of contraceptives and family planning methods, sex education, encouraging male sterilization and spacing births, free distribution of contraceptives and condoms among the poor, encouraging female empowerment, more healthcare centers for the poor, to name a few, can play a major role in controlling population.

India's strengths in the global world in various fields cannot be ignored, whether in science and technology, medicine and health care, business and industry, military, communication, entertainment, literature and many more. Experts are hopeful that by increasing public awareness and enlisting strict population control norms by the Government will definitely lead the way for the country's economic prosperity and control of population.

Conclusion :-

In this paper we examined that India is facing a real problem of rapid growth of population explosion. This problem is due to large difference between the birth rate and death rate, birth rate is remaining at high level, but death rate is declining, so this situation creates many economic and social problems in Indian economy. In the present time we are facing the problems like unemployment, poverty, low level of per capita income, low level of living standard, environmental degradation, poor social infrastructure etc. so, there is a need to implement many effective policies. Solution to the problem of population calls for a definite population policy. The objective of population control policy is to decrease the growth rate of population and improve economic condition.

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