

B.A. Hons., Part - III
Sociology, Paper - VIII

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Harrison and Boyce— Explain the definition of demography as the definition of population for demographic purposes, in which concern is primarily directed towards the analysis of fertility, mortality and migration, which can be made entirely on arbitrary grounds. It need be no more than a group of individuals in which a demographer is interested. Demography, essentially provides a methodology which can meaningfully be applied to many situations which are not primarily concerned with population definition. On the other hand, the demographic structure, in terms of patterns of fertility and mortality, emigration and immigration and the effects of these on age, sex composition are of vital concern to the dynamics of populations which have been recognised for other purposes.

The above definitions show that demography is the science which deals with the populations size and density, growth, distribution and composition.

Scope of Demography— From some of the definitions of demography given above, it becomes amply clear that many writers have made the scope of its study very wide, whereas others have made it considerably narrow. As has already been said, those who feel that the scope of the study is wide believe that under demography can be studied the causes about the slow or rapid birth rate, causes for changes in death rate, population growth, sex ratio and health conditions etc.

According to them in demography many economic problems e.g. employment and income conditions of masses, position regarding high and low living standard, labour conditions and their living standard, information about production and consumption, saving habits of population belonging to all sections of the society, rate of growth, working efficiency of masses and the relationship of economic development and food growth with growing population come in. Coming to social problems, these thinkers believe that demography helps in the study of many problems such as marital status, composition of the family and growing trends among caste, religion and education etc.

These thinkers also believe that demography is a collective study of human life. It deals with individual ancestries, hereditary nature of the population and collects physical, social and vital facts. It registers facts, from birth to death including family, marriage, divorce and sickness, human growth, structure and strength. It also studies at some length diseases and their relation with the human body.

Questions

1. Define demography. Discuss its main scope.
2. What is demography? Discuss its scope.

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Importance and Uses of Demography with Special Reference to Indian Social Situation :

Man's Interest in size, composition and distribution of population has a long history. Nature and purpose of the inquiry has been changing with the passage of time. Demography— population studies— has been studied in a scientific way since 17th century. The importance of this branch of inquiry was realised after the Second World War for planned development of the war infected nations. Among them in the developed countries there was a serious and urgent problem of reconstruction and development. Being developed, such countries had experience and trained people and other sources that helped the reconstruction. On the other hand, the countries with undeveloped or little developed economies had to face a great challenge to overcome the effects of the war. They had little or unsystematic demographic data and little material resources for planning reconstruction and development efforts. For planned economic and non-economic efforts various Kind of data collection regarding population of the different areas of the countries were started. In those perspectives various schemes and programmes were launched. Increasing population trend and other demographic characteristics gave depth to the planning. As a result, for example, attempts were begun to check birth rate. Death rate were also improved with schemes of medical care. But even then economic development could not be noticeable because of fast increasing population. Number of the poor unemployed and hungry went on increase. Realising such devastating impact more efforts were made to have demographic data for the direction and volume of the programmes of economic development. And then it was found that such data are very important and effective for formulating various schemes and programmes in various fields. So, like developed countries, various sources including new research institutes were begun to be utilised for collection of demographic data and their analysis in developing countries also.

In modern time importance of demography is accepted in all countries having developed, controlled, centrally planned or developing economies. It plays important and effective role in formulation of policies for socio-economic development. Presently India is a developing country with democratic system of government. After independence economic development of the country began with five year plans. Planned social change began to achieve the national objective, socialistic pattern of society. The reality has been accepted that human labour is not only an importance source of the economic development of the country but determines the process and volume of capital formulation. It is both means and end of production in the country. Besides, it also provides help in discoveries and inventions. In other words, about the importance of demography it may be said that demographic forces influence the nature and quality of all factors of production and also determine the kind of economic climate within which all activities take place. The great demographer Ashok Mitra highlighting the importance opines that even it is difficult to think about economic planning of development without collection of demographic data. Keeping the perspective of importance of demography deliberate and serious efforts have been made in independent India

for demographic data. Keeping the perspective of importance of demography deliberate and serious efforts have been made in independent India for demographic data and their analysis through educational institutions; government departments and others. Even new research centres have been established for the purpose. It is the demographic analysis which indicate the volume, trend and other characteristics of Indian population. With the understanding of increasing population seriously programmes have been made to check birth rate. Family welfare programme is one of them. The importance of demography in developing countries like India has been put forward by the great economist. B.N.Ganguli that for some time it has been experienced that when economic laws and principles are used in developing countries (or in those countries which are in economic transition period) these laws leave reality and practicality. As a consequence, their utilities go on decreasing because in the countries on transition. On the one hand demographic pressure is on increase and on the other hand there is no congruence between institutional changes and structural rigidities. Therefore, for providing applied form to economics it is necessary to assign importance to demographic forces therein. Such views of Ganguli highlights the inadequacy of economics on the one hand and importance of demography on the other hand for economic development of countries like India where increasing population happens to be a challenge for development. Presently Indian economy is said to be 'liberalising' for fast economic development. So the importance of demography has increased in present day social situation than ever before.

Uses of Demography :

Realising the fast growing importance of demography for development of the countries it is but natural that other branches of knowledge might attract to demography. Other disciplines have implicit or explicit objective that their knowledge should be of some use for the people. In fact, the forces what are now known as demographic characteristics have been influencing various disciplines in formulation of social concepts and theories. Size, distribution of population, classification of population on the basis of age, sex, education, occupation and others have been instrumental in refinement, formulation and rejection of sociological concepts and theories. Demographic data have amply been used in other social sciences particularly economics for similar purposes. For explaining economic activities and processes demographic data have been used. In modern time more and more detailed and classified demographic data are needed for formulation of various schemes and programme for higher planned economic development of the countries. The use of demography is also important for developed countries. Out of eight variables of the economic model for the developed countries propounded by Ashok Mitra include two demographic variable namely number of labour and labour productivity.

The uses of demography are done in Indian social situation in various ways. After independence in 1947 it was greatly felt to modernise the Indian economy and society and it was a great challenge for a newly independent country. Under democratic political set up various constitutional provisions have been made for a welfare state. Accordingly different schemes and programmes have been formulated, the objective of socialistic pattern of society was put before the nation. Economically and in other fields the country has been considered backward, traditional, and poor. The division of the country has been agrarian, mostly traditional living mostly in villages. Economic

development was the main objective and a great challenge. For the purpose five year planning was taken up. At that time data regarding size, composition and distribution of population were not found up-to-date, reliable and realistic. It caused intense problems in identifying the agenda for economic development and allocating resources available or anticipated under five year plan. It is said that similar demographic problems related to development were found in other Asian, African and Latin American countries where agriculture based economy was predominant.

Gradually efforts have been made in India with seriousness to collect demographic data through agencies, even establishing new institution. As used demographic census per decade has continuously been done in independent India. Independent institutions of higher bearing have also been opened for demographic studies. Realising the magnitude and rate of population growth several economic and other measures have been taken extensively to counteract it. Under family welfare and other health care programmes have been launched to control birth rate, minimise death rate and for proper care of pregnant woman, infant and others. On the basis of demographic data schemes have been launched for removal of poverty, unemployment, alcoholism and other social problems hindering the proper socio-economic development of the nation. Such data also provide the basis for establishing small-scale or big industry, hospital, school, college and other educational institutions. Such data prove useful for improving or opening means for transport and communication. Emphasis on developing small family norm is for demographic reasons. Because of inadequacy or absence of relevant population data several schemes and programme fail to bear fruits. Here it may not be mistaken that their success depend only on the proper use of demographic data. In fact, their success depend on social, cultural, geographical, administrative and other factors But demographic data, no doubt, play an important role in the formulation and completion of various development schemes and programmes launched under modernization of Indian society and economy.

Questions

1. Define demography and discuss the role of its study for planning and development.
2. Analyse the importance and uses of demography for economic planning in India.

Lesson -3

MALTHIAN THEORY OF POPULATION

Thomas Robert Malthus was born on 14th February, 1776, and he lived upto 1834. His parents had liberal views and gave him good education. It was after completing his studies at Cambridge that he studied religion. He gave his ideas in his 'Economics of Geography' in 1798, when he was working as a : . His views came to be widely known to the society in "An Essay on the Principle of Population— As it affects the future improvement of society, with remarks on the speculations of Mr. Godwin. In 1805 he wrote his famous essay entitled, An Essay on the Principle of Population or a View of its Past and Present Effects on Human Happiness".

Malthus in his young age, was a priest and thereafter he became a professor of History and Economics in Hailbury. It was a time when it was believed that the pressure of population on the earth was increasing. The society was sharply being divided between the rich and the poor and the latter were being ruthlessly exploited by the former. In Europe both the wars and diseases had created many horrors. Though the population was increasing, there was no increase in production. It was also a time when the Industrial Revolution took place and with it many new problems confronted the society. Prof. Malthus saw with his own eyes that the Industrial Revolution was making rich richer but poor were becoming poorer. Prof. Green at that time said about English society that, "poverty was added to the cause of mis-government and deepened with the rapid growth of the native population till famine turned the country into a hell."

Malthus however, viewed the whole problem analytically. According to him, both the government as well as the propertied class were supporting the population growth because both had their own interests in that. The government got soldiers for the army where as the propertied class had labourers at cheap rates. He felt that the growing population was alone responsible for growing poverty, an employment and weak health of the people resulting in the spread of diseases.

Before giving his ideas, Malthus toured some western countries and collected population data. After this he formulated certain basic assumptions :

1. Human beings have great potentialities to produce children.
2. In agriculture, Law of Diminishing Returns operates.
3. Human beings will need food to eat.
4. Passion between sexes is necessary and unavoidable.

Rate of population growth :— Malthus believed that male and female will continue to attract each other. It is almost difficult to control the birth of children when the copule meets. He believed that population could be expected to double itself in 25 years. According to him, it was growing by geometrical ratio i.e., in the ratio of 1:2:4:8:16:32:64: and so on and by this ratio one will not know of the world population after 2000 years. According to him, this was really a serious problem because "Prosperity was not to depended on population but population was to depend on prosperity.

Rate of food growth :— Population must live on food. But growth and increase in food are much less than the growth in population. He came to the conclusion that whereas population was growing by geometrical progression, food, was growing only by arithmetical progression, i.e. in the ratio of 1:2:3:4:5:6 and so on. He came to the conclusion that "it may be fairly pronounced, therefore, considering the present average state of the earth, the means of subsistence under circumstances the most favourable to human industry, could not possibly be made to increase faster in an arithmetical ratio.

According to him the present rate of growth is bound to create disequilibrium between food and population and the standard of living of the people is sure to come down. This trend is surely harmful for the society as a whole. He also believed that food production could not be increased all

of a sudden, as and when people liked. In fact continued disequilibrium could disturb the whole world order and the universe could be faced with many miseries and continued physical restraints and constraints. He believed that population was necessarily limited by the means of subsistence.

Checks on population:— As already said, Malthus believed that Nature had a very limited table. He was, therefore, fully convinced that unless the growing population was checked, a day would come when the population would exceed the food availability. Accordingly, from time to time Nature imposed and applied certain checks to control the growing population. These checks were in the form of diseases, starvations, floods etc. He named these checks as positive ones. He said that, 'A man who is born into a world already possessed if he can not get subsistence from his parents on whom he has a just demand, and if the society does not want his labour, has no claim or right to the smallest portion of food and in fact, has no business to be where he is. At nature's mighty feast there is no vacant cover for him. She tells him to be gone.' Malthus stressed that since the restrictions imposed by nature to check the population were horrifying, it was desirable that the people should themselves try to impose restraints so that nature was not forced to impose itself. He said that the people must realize that they themselves were the cause of their poverty by not checking the population growth. He, therefore, suggested that the people should always prefer preventive or positive checks over nature's horrifying checks.

Coming to preventive checks, Malthus said that these were all such self-imposed checks by which the population growth could be effectively checked. According to him, "By normal restraint it would be understood to mean a restraint from marriage, from providential motives with a conduct strictly moral during the period of this restraint." Morally he did not like that any person, should in any way indulge in immoral acts which do not result in the production of children. Accordingly, one such check which he suggested was 'self-restraint'.

Then another check which he proposed was that the people should use contraceptives and go in for abortions. But he always preferred self-restraints over the use of contraceptives etc. Malthus believed that the people should marry late, preferably after attaining the age of 27-28 and that the couple should be made to realize the importance of self-restraint even at the time of marriage.

Malthus has given his ideas about some other aspects of population as well. According to him the migration of population was likely to solve, at least temporarily, the food problem of a country. Emigration of population is to the advantage of poor nations on food front. He also believed that specialization in agriculture and production of finished goods could be useful for a nation, but at the same time it need not be forgotten that those nations which are industrially and commercially advanced could purchase food from agriculturally advanced nations to the extent they needed.

Criticism of Malthus's theory :— Malthus has been criticised on various accounts. In fact, his theory raised a big controversy not during his own times but still remains open to criticism. Prof. Grav is of the view that his theory raised such a big controversy that almost every important thinker

paid attention to what he said. It was, however, unfortunate that he was too much vilified. Some of the important points of criticism raised against him are as under :

1. According to many of his critics, it is wrong to believe that the population increases by geometrical proportion. According to them he has tried to justify this simply to show his frustration. According to these critics, these days people are themselves quite conscious and do not unnecessarily wish to increase their family size. Such an awakening has come simply because of the spread of education and many on-going researches in the scientific field about checking the population explosion. It is evident from the facts that Malthus's prediction that the population will double itself within the next 25 years has not come true.

2. Malthus tried to prove that every body is interested in increasing the family size and that all the children born in a family will survive. But that is not true. "Usually it is observed that in communities where the birth rate is high, usually the death rate is also very high. In the words of Prof Gide," Germs are extraordinarily prolific but their undue multiplication is pitilessly retarded by a law which demands the death of a certain proportion so that the life, like a well regulated reservoir always remains at a mean level, the terrible gaps made by death being replenished by a new flow."

3. Malthus was of the view that food products increase by arithmetical ratio and as such it shall not be possible to meet the needs of population which are increasing by a geometrical ratio. But his prophecy about food increase is not providing very true because the nation is trying and using new scientific means and methods to ensure that maximum food output is available to the society. In many societies, it has proved true as well that food supplies have very considerably increased. Today new irrigation systems and facilities have brought the green revolution all over the world.

4. Prof. Cannan has also criticized Malthus in his own way. According to him, it is wrong to believe that there is always a direct link between population growth and food increase, as Malthus has tried to establish. Quoting the example of England, he has said that the country produce only for 1/6 of its total population but the people in every walk of life have sufficient to eat. This applies to many other colonial powers as well as those which are in a position to export finished goods for the import of food stuff from surplus food producing countries. According to him, in this regard also Malthus' theory falls down.

5. No doubt, as Malthus believes that the child begins to produce after some age but he forgets that the same child, when he begins to produce, does not produce for himself alone but for the whole society and feeds a vast population by dint of his labour. Thus the child is not a burden in the long run as Malthus has put it.

6. Prof. Malthus has tried to establish that the increasing population among the poor and the down trodden of the society is responsible for the poverty of the society. It is, therefore, most desirable that the poor should not marry so that the population growth is checked. There is a considerable element of truth in the saying that the increase in the population of the poor spreads poverty but at the same time it cannot be denied that the growth of population among the poor is

not the sole cause of poverty. The main causes of poverty are defective policies of the state resulting in the concentrating of economic power in the hands of a few only. This system also results in making the rich still richer and the poor still poorer. Therefore, Malthus has not gone too deep into the causes of poverty and has superficially analyzed the whole problem.

7. Malthus has tried to establish that population is related to its food production, but again he is mistaken. He has forgotten that the living standard of the people and the population growth are linked with the capacity of the nation to have a favourable international balance of trade, capacity to colonise and send people to those countries etc. In this regard, he was also not very realistic in his approach and overlooked this important factor.

8. Malthus has talked about the pressure on land. Obviously he is thinking of the land already under plough. He has forgotten that there are vast tracts of land which are lying barren and that these can be brought under plough. This land, when cultivated, can feed the mouths of the growing population."

9. Marx has rather very harshly criticized Malthus for expounding his theory. According to him Malthus was altogether a plagiarist by profession. He borrowed nonsense from an earlier writers like Rev. Townsend. His ideas regarding geometric and arithmetic progression were purely chimerical hypothesis. He copied and paraphrased Rev. Townsend like a slavish plagiarist.

Questions

1. Discuss Malthus theory of population ?
2. Critically examine the Malthusian theory of population.

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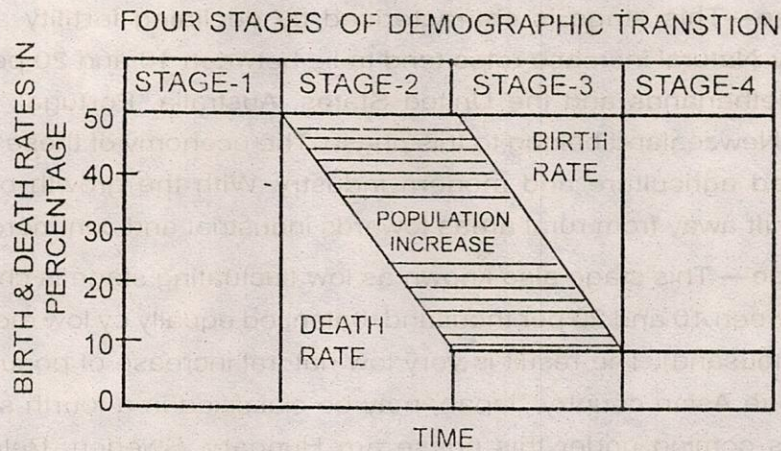
Lesson -4

Theory of Demographic Transition

There are a number of distinct stages in demographic growth through which population passes. The stages being collectively known as the population cycle or the theory of 'demographic transition'. The demographic transition is the relationship between fertility and mortality, i.e. between the birth rate and the death rate. The theory pinpoints the changes in these rates which occur as a consequence of economic development. Sax had identified four stages involved in this demographic transition that has historically accompanied modern economic development.

The first stage— Sometimes called the high fluctuating stage is marked by high fertility and mortality rate and by slow or intermittent population growth. The first phase occurs in those

economies which are characterised by low productivity, low standard of living, heavy agricultural dependence, primitive means of production and underdeveloped means of transport. In such economies death rates are high due to widespread prevalence of illiteracy, universality of marriage,



early marriage, absence of desire to plan families, and last but not the least, as a consequence of deep rooted social beliefs and customs about the size of the family, attitude towards children, etc. Moreover, in a primitive society, there are economic advantages of large family in the form of low cost of children and their earnings. "Children contribute at an early age and are the traditional sources of security in the old age parents. The prevalent high death rates, especially in infancy, imply that such security can be attained only when many children are born." In such a society, since the high birth rate is balanced by the high death rate, regular increase in population is very low. This stage is usually referred to as the stage of "high potential growth" but of low actual growth. This variability of the death rate and of its susceptibility to control or reduction, under modern conditions.

Britain passed through this stage prior to the Industrial Revolution. Countries of Central, Western and Eastern Africa and South East Asia are included in this stage where the increase in population is conditioned by the frequent occurrences of famines, pestilence, floods and droughts.

The Second Stage— This stage is also known as the early expanding phase or youthful demographic stage, when death rate begins to decline but birth rate lags considerably behind. This accelerates the growth of population. High growth potential of the first stage is realised in the high actual growth in the second stage as a consequence of decline in death rate. In countries belonging to this phase, agriculture techniques are improved by various scientific devices so that food supply becomes more abundant. The improvement in transport makes the supply of food regular. Increasing industrialisation brings about all round improvement. Rise in income levels enables the people to improve their self. Better medical facilities are provided. All these factors tend to increase birth rate but to reduce death rate. This wide gap between the two keeps the net rate of growth at very high levels and this makes the stage of population explosion. This stage is the most hazardous period for a developing economy. The decline in death rate in the second stage creates an imbalance which requires a period of transition for adjustment. Thus the theory is termed as the theory of demographic transition.

Britain passed through this stage from about 1750 to 1880, in latter period the birth rate was about 33 and death rate about 20. Many countries— Northern South America and Central America as well as China and Parts of South East Asia belong to this stage.

The third stage—This stage is characterised by declining fertility and with mortality declining more rapidly. Natural increase rates tend to lie between 10 and 20 per thousand. Spain and Yugoslavia, the Netherlands and the United States, Australia, Portugal, U.S.S.R. Canada, Argentina, Israel and Newzealand belong to this phase. The economy of these countries is based relatively on advanced agriculture and modern industry. With the growth of industrialisation, population tends to shift away from rural areas towards industrial and commercial centres.

The fourth Stage— This stage also known as low fluctuating stage is characterised by low fertility (birth rates between 10 and 20 per thousand, balanced equally by low mortality rates (death rates of 8 to 13 per thousand), The result is very low natural increase of population. Many European countries and one Asian country, Japan, may be classified in a fourth stage of population growth. The countries coming under this phase are Hungary, Sweden, Belgium, Luxemburg, Czechoslovakia, Austria, Eagland and Wales, Denmark, France, Norway, Finland, Italy and Japan. The economy of these countries is characterised by highly developed industries, mechanised agriculture and the excess of urban population. Growth of urban population and with the development of economic roles for woman outside the home tends to increase the possibility of economic mobility that can better be achieved with small families and tends to decrease the economic advantages of a large family. One of the features of economic development is typically increasing urbanisation and children are usually more of a burden and less of an asset in an urban than in a rural setting. Thus the fourth stage is characterised by low birth rate, low death rate, small family size and low growth rate of population. This is the stage of incipient decline of population.

Thus these four stages reveal the transformation of a primitive high birth and high death rate and low-income economic into a low birth and low death rate and high-income economy. This shift is caused by the development of new technology and accumulation of capital.

Most of the developing countries today are in the third stage, and are experiencing population explosions.

Relevance of the Demographic Transition Theory to Developing Countries :

Many population experts do not think so. They cite separate factors which they feel hinder the application of the transitional theory to the presently overpopulated developing countries. They base their arguments of the contrast they observe between the economic conditions and demographic situation in the developing countries today with those prevailing in the developed countries at the corresponding stage of development. They emphasise the following differences :

1. The decline in the death rate in the developing countries has been sudden and rapid and it has not been accompanied by any economic development. On the other hand, the decline in the death rate in the developed countries was slow and gradual, and was the result of over all economic development.

2. The magnitude of the population explosion being experienced by the developing countries today is much more severe. Such high rate of population growth were never experienced by the developed countries.

3. The developing countries today are at a much lower level of economic development than was the case for the developed countries at the time of their development.

4. The opportunities for large-scale international migration as existed during the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries do not exist any more.

5. The developing countries today are relatively more densely populated that was the case with the developed countries during their period of development.

6. Unlike most developed countries, the developing countries today have no colony to exploit.

Questions

1. What is demographic transition ? Explain the stages of demographic transition.
2. Define demographic transition. Discuss the relevance of the demographic transition theory to developing countries.

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Lesson -5

The Optimum Theory of Population

The optimum theory of population is the product of reaction to the Malthusian theory of population. The theory takes into consideration the entire economic aspect related to population, economic conditions, etc, and tries to lay down desirable norms regarding population.

Origin and Development of the Theory— Prof. 'Edward West' in his Essay on the Application of Capital to Land, discussed the relation between population and manpower. Prof Henry Sidgewick in his book 'The Principle of Political Economy' appears to have given the idea of optimum population a new orientation. He pointed out that just as a firm maximises its production when the factors of production are combined in ideal proportions, similarly, the whole economy will be maximising production by the judicious combination of productive factors.

Unlike the Malthusian theory, the Optimum theory does not establish relationship between population and food supply. Rather it is concerned with the relation between the size of population

and wealth production. The Malthusian theory is a general one applicable to every country irrespective of its economic condition. On the other hand, Optimum theory is a particular theory which studies the population problem in the light of economic condition.

For every region it is essential to have some minimum population to maintain and run essential services. Maximum population should be viewed separately for each section of society. In primitive society death rate and birth rate remained high. If both are equal then the population will remain in temporary equilibrium. But such a balance is less favourable than one attained by population planning.

Definition— Many scholars have given their own views on optimum theory of population that are given below—

Boulding K.T. said, "the population at which the standard of life is a maximum is called the optimum population.

P. Jf. Dalton wrote, "Optimum population is that which gives the maximum income per head."

Robbins said, 'Optimum population is that which makes the maximum returns possible.

Hicks wrote, 'The optimum population is that level of population which would make output per head a maximum.

Carr Saunders said, "The Optimum population is that which produces maximum economic welfare. Maximum economic welfare is not necessarily the same as maximum real income per head but for all practical purposes they may be taken as equivalent."

Prof. Cannan, "At any given time (in a country) there is what may be called a point of maximum return when the amount of labour is such that both an increase or decrease in it would diminish proportionate returns. If Population is not large enough to bring all industry up to this point, returns will be less than they might be and remedy is increase of population; if on the other hand, population is so great that the point has been passed, returns are gained less than they might be and remedy is decrease in population."

Imre Ferenezi wrote, "Quantitatively it implies a set of economic and social condition which will allow each citizen an opportunity to satisfy his fundamental needs according to certain minimum standards. Qualitatively, it means a population programme which, while guaranteeing the continued maintenance of people, takes into account the engenic as well as ethnic improvement of the population. Obviously a fixed optimum is an impossibility.

Examining the above views it is clear that their emphasis was on different aspects of the optimum size. 'Cannan', 'Robbins', 'Enc', 'Roll' etc, view the optimum population from the maximisation of production, Robbins definition takes into consideration the entire productive activity of the economy in relation to population. Both 'Cannan' and 'Robins' neglect the distributional aspects of the problem. Maximisation of production is not enough for the optimum level of population, in addition what is required is its equitable distribution.

Dalton's view is more scientific and realistic. Dalton's definition of maximisation of income per head fulfils both the requirements of an ideal population.

Carr Saunder's definition in terms of maximisation of economic welfare presupposes the making of value judgments regarding income distribution and composition of output.

Interpretation of the Optimum Population— Population is to be seen as the manpower required for exploitation of natural resources and promote economic growth. As long as the optimum point is not reached, the nation shall not be able to exploit natural resources properly and fully. On the other hand, when the population crosses that point, then the nation would not get maximum return because the burden on other resources will tend to be heavy and become disproportionate. At the optimum point the resources are fully utilised which gives the ideal combination of factors of production. It also helps in suitable specialisation and division of labour. Consequently, the national gross production and income per capita become highest. It is the point at which the external economics are fully utilised and the diseconomies have not set in.

The gist of optimum theory as an empirical theory is very scientific, Given a criterion, the theory asserts that the function $Y (p)$ increases over a range of low value of P , reaches the maximum and decreases as P increases.

$$Y = y (P)$$

where y = per capita real income

P = Population

The optimum Population function shown above could be represented as a simple curve concave to X axis with a single hump. The point P shows the optimum point at which the per capita income is highest. Up to the point 'P' growth in population is accompanied by a corresponding increase in per capita income. However, beyond the point OM, further increase in population results in a decline in per capita income.

This could be explained with reference to the laws of production. To begin with, the Law of Increasing Returns operate under which as the population increases, marginal and average productivity too increase. At the point of optimum population the Law of Constant Returns take over and with further increase in population, the law of Diminishing Returns tends to overtake the economy.

Comparison of the Views of Daltons and Robbins— Dalton holds the view that the optimum population is that ideal size population which provides maximum income per head. Any expansion or diminution in the size of the population above or below the optimum level will pull down income per capita. Given the state of natural resources, techniques production and the available volume of capital stock, there is a definite size of population corresponding the highest per capita income. Other things remaining the same, any shift in the population from this norm will bring about a fall in per capita income, when the per capita income rises with an increase in population. If the per capita income falls it is a sign of over-population.

Prof. Robbins holds somewhat different views about optimum size of population. According to him, the population which just makes the maximum returns possible is the optimum population. According to him increase in population is desirable to the extent to which there is increase in production. Robbins has laid more emphasis on the maximisation of total income while Dalton's emphasis was on per capita income. As long as the people get enough to meet their day to day requirement it should be deemed to be within the desirable optimum population. Every increase in population is welcome according to Robbins as long as the people are engaged in some productive work.

Prof. Robbins viewed the whole question of population from the national income point, whereas Dalton adopted a stance in which the emphasis was on per capita income, Prof Robbins adopted a subjective outlook while Dalton approached the whole issue from an objective angle.

The optimum population as conceived by Robbins is somewhat higher than the optimum number on which Prof. Dalton has focussed his attention. Robbins tried to establish a causative nexus between production and consumption while Dalton on the contrary took pains to forge a link between production and distribution.

Criticism of the Optimum Theory— The theory has serious weakness which should not be lost sight of. This has considerably reduced the practical utility and value of the theory.

1. There is no evidence of optimum level. It is difficult to say whether there is anything like optimum population. There is no evidence about the optimum population level in any country. In fact, it is impossible to measure it. Optimum population implies a quantitative and qualitative ideal population for the country. The quantitative aspect implies in addition to age composition and other factor like physique; knowledge, intelligence, etc. These variables are subject to change and are related to environment.

2. Choice of criteria— The Choice of criteria involves considerations other than scientific also. However, scientific methods are used to clarify them which is not practical.

3. Per capita income cannot be correctly measured— Per capita income is a variable which cannot be measured easily. To find out variation in per head income bristles with insurmountable difficulties. The data on per capita income are often inadequate, misleading and unreliable which make the concept of optimum of doubtful validity.

4. The theory ignores the distributional aspects of increase in per capita income— It is

not certain that increase in population accompanied by increase in per capita income would usher in an era of prosperity to the country. On the contrary an increase in wealth often leads to concentration of income in the hands of few rich which will create widespread disparity in income distribution, which may prove harmful to the economy. Thus the optimum theory of population ignores the distributional aspect of increase in per capita income.

5. The optimum population is a moving-point— The theory is static. The theory assumes that the stock of capital, natural resources, technique of production, etc, are constant. Therefore, what is optimum at a point of time may remain so for a period of time. But it is not correct to presume so. When population varies in the real world there is also concomitant variation in technology and organisation. As a result what may be optimum at a point of time might become less or more the optimum over a period of time.

6. This theory has no place in state policies— The concept of optimum population has no place in state policies. Employment, output, etc., are sought to be increased with the help of fiscal and monetary policies, but optimum population was not returned to for policy use. Thus the theory has little practical utility.

7. It is difficult to achieve in practice— Achieving an optimum population through the exercise of available population policies as well as ascertaining the optimum present formidable difficulties.

8. Theory neglects social and institutional conditions— The theory takes into consideration economic factors while social and institutional conditions in a country are ignored which also influence the level of population. What is optimum from economic point of view may not be so from defence consideration of the country. Thus the theory is one-sided..

9. The theory is purely materialistic— The theory adopts a purely materialistic outlook in which progress of society is measured in terms of per capita income, wealth is not an end in itself, but it is only a means to an end.

Prof. Wipple said "A nation's true wealth lies not in land and water, not in its forest and mines, not in its flocks and herds, not in its dollars, but in its healthy and happy men, women and children.

Importance of Optimum Population Theory—

The theory is important on the following counts—

1. It stresses the need to control the population and, therefore, it is useful to support the Family Planning Programmes.
2. It emphasises the need to increase income per head which can contribute to the welfare of the citizens of a country.
3. Equally important is its emphasis on changing the environment according to time and changing conditions to maintain the equilibrium of society and nation.
4. The theory tries to establish earnest connection between population and economic progress.
5. The theory views population as agent of production and points out neither over population nor under population which will be beneficial for the country.

6. Its exponents have discussed the whole concepts of optimum population on the basis of it come per head, which is scientific theorising.

7. It has successfully countered the psychosis that man is a slave of his environment and showed that through judicious combination of factors of production, we can conquer over surrounding.

8. The approach is optimistic. Humanity does not have a future which is black, devoid of hope and full of misery. In fact, man becomes master of his destiny since he can change the 'optimum' by changing his own efficiency, techniques of production and stock of capital.

9. The optimum theory has a leaning towards welfare economics because when determining the optimum number for a country welfare consideration have to be kept in view.

10. There is stress on proper exploitation of natural resources and this approach is growth-oriented. A country which makes proper use of all that the nature has given to it free of charge, can support a larger population.

11. The optimum theory is based on a forward-looking approach. Suppose there is over population. What does the theory prescribe? Production should be increased by increasing the efficiency of the workers and a proper investment programme based on sound planning.

12. The optimum theory is dynamic.

13. The Malthusian theory has significance only in the context of over-population. The optimum theory can describe either type of mal-adjustment—

Questions

1. What is Optimum Theory of Population? Describe the origin and development of the theory.
2. Define Optimum Theory of Population and explain the views of Dalton and Robbins.
3. Critically examine the Optimum Theory of Population and examine its importance.

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Socio-Economic Theory of Population

Many thinkers in the field of Sociology and Economics have contributed their views about population growth. Some thinkers gave their views that are given below—

Henry George was an American economist and social reformer. His book 'Progress and Prosperity' was published in 1879. He ruled out any natural enmity between man's natural tendency to increase in numbers and his ability to provide subsistence for them. He pointed out : "The law of population accords with and is subordinate to the law of intellectual development, and any danger that human beings may be brought into a world where they can not be provided for, arises not from the ordinances of nature, but from social maladjustments that in the midst of wealth condemn men to want.

He advocated the thesis of a single tax on land as a solution to the population problem. If the rent which people pay for the use of land is siphoned off in the form of a tax no further tax is required. He believed private ownership detrimental to production. He suggested socialisation of land to yield more which will overcome the problem of over-population or scarcity of subsistence.

Arsene Dumont studied the population growth and evolve his theory social capillarity. He regarded the movement from one class to other is the 'raisonne de etre' or decline in birth rate. He concluded that, "the development of numbers in a nation is an inverse ratio to the development of the individual. Dumont regarded social capillarity to be more effective in a country where obstacles to the movement from class to class are weak and hindrances few.

Dumont felt that in a country like India, on account of caste system, social capillarity is relatively weak and consequently birth rates continue to rule high. Rigidity of social structure is constraint on social upward movement. Individual development will not be engrossing under such circumstances.

Frank Felter was an economic and social thinker who propounded the theory of voluntarism. He disagreed with the malthusian law of population, which he considered one sided. He said that many societies in the world, where children or the aged died not on account of food deficiency or unhealthy offspring. Felter tried to point out many other factors influencing death rate. The salient features of Felter's theory could be shown as under.

The rich voluntarily restrict the birth rate through judicious exercise of their intellect and common sense. The otehr reasons of low birth rate among the rich are—

- (i) The affluent section of society would like to enjoy maximum material happiness which will be jeopardised in case the childrens are many.
- (ii) Rich people believe in accumulating wealth and property. More birth means that the property will have to be sub-divided which is a proposition which they try to avoid.
- (iii) The rich people spend very heavily in rearing up their children which creates undue strain on resources. The expenditure starts from the very birth itself. On the other hand

the children begins to give return at much later stage on account of which the rich try to keep the birth rate low.

Felter believed that the individual voluntarily through his own desire produce children under the influence of socio-economic pressures.

Poor people spend very little in upbringing their progene. Consequently, they are very less concerned about the number of children.

The poor are less intelligent and lack common sense . They do not think rationally about the number of children, which keeps the birth rate fairly high. (Karl Marx's theory of surplus population)

Karl Marx was a scientific socialist of repute, His socialistic theory of population was christianed as the theory of surplus population. Marx made scathing attack on the Malthusian theory of population as figment of imagination and utter falsehood. He ascribed the tendency of man to press on the means of subsistence to evils of capitalism which would disappear with the emergence of communism. When communism is in operation, there can be no poverty and hardship whatever be the rate of population increase.

Marx, stated his view thus " It is the working population which, while effecting the accumulation of capital also produces the means whereby it is itself rendered relatively superfluous, is turned into a relatively surplus population, and it does so to an ever increasing extent.

Marx's Views—

1. Marx held that surplus population and employment are the consequence of capitalist system which fails to provide jobs for all—

- (a) The capitalist epoch is a system under which the wealth and capital are concentrated in the hand of a few individuals. The demand for labourers fails to keep up with the increase in the number of workers, which creates a vast reserve army of unemployment.
- (b) The dominant motive behind the capitalist system in profit on account of which the labour is paid less than the value of labour power, and the surplus value is pocketed by the capitalist.
- (c) The capitalist introduces labour saving machines and rationalisation, etc., to increase the surplus value. With accumulation of capital, unemployment spreads, wages decline and poverty increases. The cumulative effect of the poverty and unemployment creates the surplus population.

2. Marx dismissed as rubbish the argument that the population increase is due to improvidence and biological factors.

3. Marx ascribed low food production to inequality in land distribution, zamindari system, shortage of land with the real tiller and uncertainty in land tenure.

4. Marx believed that the proletariat help the wheels of production more and increase the profit of the capitalist while they are subject to exploitation. The capitalist is a vampire that thrives on the blood of the poor labourer and gets richer and felter the more blood it sucks.

5. It is difficult, according to Marx to give a universal population theory valid for all times. The mode of production undergoes changes from time to time. Under capitalism the principle of surplus population alone is applicable.

6. Unemployment is a distinguishing feature of capitalism. As the decay of capitalism snowballs, the conditions will become favourable for collective method of production to give full employment and a good living to able bodied workers no matter how fastly or greatly their numbers increases. It will also bring down death rate considerably.

Marx refuted Malthus. Commenting on Malthus, Marx said— "I should like to remind him that this work, in its first form, was nothing more than a school boyish, superficial and parsonic declamatory plagiarism from before, Sir James Stuart, Townsend, Franklin, Wallace, and others, and did not contain a single sentence thought out by Malthus himself."

Criticism—

1. Marx sought to criticise Malthus with the use of personal abuse and invective. Thompson and Lewis observed— "There can be no question of sincerity of Marx's belief in the evils of capitalism as the sole basis of poverty but he should have confined his efforts to discredit Malthus views to personal ridicule and verification. Apparently Marx must have had deep seated doubt that Malthus, views could be sufficiently disposed of by an appeal to facts and reasons." In fact the attack on Malthus was made without making thorough study of the principles of population of Malthus.

2. It is not correct to presume that under communism, there will be no need to check the population growth at any stage. Even in Communist countries population is sought to be restricted on ground of mother's health. Russia and China are veering round to the opinion of planned parenthood.

3. Marx's Chief purpose was to discredit capitalism, for which he sought to put the blame of surplus population on the capitalist setup.

4. Marx found in communism the panacea for the ills of the society, but he failed to elaborate on the fertility behaviour, propeurity of population growth etc., in his setup.

5. To state that population is no problem in a socialistic set up, whatever be the rate of population growth is wishful thinking.

6. The opinion may be ventured that the Marxian philosophy was torn in between deep seated hatred towards capitalism and blind support towards communism, and gone astray from the path of realism.

Leibenstein's Theory of Population—

Leibenstein has come forward with an economic explanation of population problem or otherwise known as the population theory of economic development, His views can be presented as under—

1. Size and living standard— The more large size of the population of a country will have to make strenuous efforts to come out of the mesh of low living standards.

2. Density of Population— Leibenstein maintained that high density is not a constraint to economic development nor can we say that low density is stimulant to economic growth. Economic growth hinges on factors like quantity and quality of the raw materials available, size and availability of capital, state of technology, laws of production, etc.

3. Birth rate and economic growth— Leibensteni believed that the decline in the birth rate follows economic development. Naturally primary attention should be given to programmes of economic development. Simultaneously measures to control birth rate should also be implemented. So long as economic development does not take place, the citizens do not act rationally as they would not be aware of the means and the methods of birth control.

Questions

1. What is Socio-economic theory of Population ? Give the views of scholars.
2. What do you mean by socio-economic theory of Karl Marx ?

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Lesson -7

POPULATION COMPOSITION

A study of the composition and characteristics of population is an important aspect of the study of population. The composition of population, covers this aspect of population studies, which embraces the following basic personal, social and economic characteristics or attributes of any population : age, sex, race, nationality, religion, language, marital status, house hold and family composition, literacy and educational attainment, employment status, occupation, income etc.

A population may be distributed into sub-groups, according to each of the foregoing characteristics. For instance, when sex is considered, the entire population may be classified into two groups; males or females; when religion is considered, the entire population may be divided into different religious groups. The study of population composition and characteristics thus relates to the distribution of one or more of these characteristics or attributes within a population.

Several uses of the study of population composition and characteristics may be identified : (1) It helps in an elaborate study of any population and thus makes comparison possible ; (2) The data on population composition and characteristics are useful in the preparation of inventories of human resources, so necessary for effective developmental plannings; (3) when reliable

information on births and deaths is not available from the civil registration system, it may be obtained by utilising the data on the age-sex distribution of the population available from a census, and (4) data on the distribution of population attributes provide material for the study of the social and economic structure of population and the changes in this composition, if any.

Sex and Age Composition

Sex and age are the basic compositions, or the biological attributes, of any demographic group and affect not only its demographic but also its social-economic and political structure, for they influence birth and death rates, internal and international migration, marital status composition, manpower, the gross national product, planning regarding educational and medical services, and housing etc. From the sex-age distribution of any population, estimates of the school-age population may be made and, on that basis, one may arrive at an estimate of the number of educational institutions, teachers, play grounds, text books, etc. which will be needed. Even in the field of social welfare, the planning of social services— for instance, for mothers and children, for the aged, etc.— has to be based on the sex-age distribution of the population.

Sex composition— Sex is an easily identifiable characteristic and its dichotomous nature presents few problems for classification.

For the study of the sex-composition of any population, the following two measures are generally adopted : (1) the percentage of males in the population or masculinity proportion, and (2) the sex ratio.

The sex ratio of a population may either be expressed as the number of males per 1000 females or as the number of females per 1000 males. When the sex ratio is defined as the number of males per 1000 females, the sex ratio above 1000 indicates a high sex ratio, that below 1000 is considered to be a low sex ratio. The sex ratio of the total population at a point of time is known as "the over all sex ratio". According to the 1971 Census in India, the over-all sex ratio of the total population was 1075 ; there were 1075 males for every 1000 females in India in 1971. Generally the over all sex ratios of the populations of most countries fall within the narrow range of 950 to 1050. It may be seen that, in general, the overall sex ratios of developing countries are on the higher side, while those of the developed countries are below 1000. The sex ratio of the German Democratic Republic and of the USSR are below 900, while those of India, Pakistan, Bangladesh Kuwait and Iran have values which exceeds 1050.

Factors Affecting Over all Sex-Ratio— While the sex-age composition of any population is determined by past trends in fertility mortality and migration, the over all sex ratio is the result of the joint effect of the following three factors :

(1) **Sex-ratio at birth**— It must be noted that there is no 1 : 1 correspondence in the male and female births the number of male babies is always slightly higher. An examination of the sex ratios of registered births for a large number of countries over a wide range of periods indicates that the sex ratio at birth is above 1000 for nearly all countries for which the complete data are available. It is given below.

SEX-RATIO OF NEWLY BORN BABIES IN SELECTED COUNTRIES

Country	Sex Ratio ((M ÷ F) × 100)
Canada	1060
United States	1051
Chile	1041
Japan	1062
Denmark	1051
France	1051
Poland	1065
F.R. Germany	1057
United Kingdom	1065
Australia	1043
U.S.S.R.	1051

Source : Computed from United Nation, Demographic Year Book.

Sex-ratio of birth is determined biologically and, therefore, only slight variations are observed from population. It appears that nature's balance is slightly more favourable to males at birth. The sex-ratio at birth depends upon the sex-ratios of two biological antecedent events : (1) Sex-ratio at the time of conception (2) Sex ratio of foetal losses on death. The sex of foetus is determined at the time of fertilization, but there is no direct means of observing this ratio. Though the sex ratio at birth is determined primarily by biological factors, variations, though only of a small magnitude, are caused because of some demographic factors, the most important among which are the age of mothers and the order of live birth.

(2) Sex-Ratio of Deceased Persons : Differential mortality of males and females is an important factor affecting the over all sex ratio and the sex ratio at various ages, Compared to the sex-ratio of births, that of deceased persons shows greater variation from country to country.

It has also been observed that the expectation of life at birth for females is almost universally higher than that of males, though India, and other countries like Pakistan and Bangladesh which are culturally similar to India, are glaring exceptions to this rule. In developed countries, at each age, the death rates are usually higher for males than for females. The over-all mortality for males is generally higher than for females.

(3) Sex- Ratio of Net Migrants : The third factor affecting the over all sex ratio of any population is the sex-ratio of the net migrants, which is essentially socio-economic in nature. Migration is ordinarily sex-selective, in the sense that persons of either sex participate in migration rather than persons of both sexes participating equally.

In most countries, the volume of international migrations is not significant enough to have

any marked impact on the sex structure of population. In Argentina and Singapore, however, immigration has influenced the sex structure of the population.

Internal migration is also sex selective, but more so in the case of males. When persons of one sex dominate among internal migrants, the sex ratios of the various regions of the country are affected. For instance, it is known that, in India, among the migrants who go from rural areas to urban areas, the proportion of males is high. As a result, the sex ratio of urban population in India has always been higher than that of rural population.

In India, the sex ratio in urban areas is favourable to males. Many European countries, however, as well as the United States and Chile present a completely different picture. In those countries, the sex ratios are lower in urban areas than in rural areas, indicating that women outnumber men in urban areas, while there is a preponderance of men in rural areas. This situation has occurred mainly because of female-dominated internal migration, which is a pattern created by socio-cultural condition.

Age Composition— The United Nations has defined age as "the estimated or calculated interval of time between the date of birth and the date of census expressed in completed solar years. It has also recommended that information on age should be collected in the census by asking the date of birth of the individual or by asking a direct question to obtain information on the age at the last birthday.

Though it is easy enough to ask questions on age, it is extremely difficult to obtain correct information about age when people are illiterate or semi-illiterate and are ignorant about their own age. In India, it is not uncommon for enumerators or investigators in a census or demographic survey being told "I do not know my age. May be I am 30 or 35 year old. Why do not you decide how old I am"? The Indian age data, therefore, show concentration of population at a certain age, for Indians prefer to report their age in numbers ending 0 or 5.

Factors Determining that Age Structure of Population : Changes in the three factors which effect the growth rate of any population, namely, fertility mortality and migration, are also responsible for determining the age structure of any population, which is mathematically determined by the levels of fertility, mortality and migration.

The effects of fertility and mortality

During the 1950s, however, researches of various demographers such as V.G. Vataorus (1950), Frank Lorimer (1951), Alfred Sauvey (1954), Ausley Coale (1956), and the United Nations (1958) demonstrated that the ageing of the populations in several western countries was almost entirely due to a decline in the fertility rate, and that it was virtually negligible because of the decline in the death rates. Whether a population of any country is "young", or "old" is mainly determined by the fertility of the women in that country. When fertility is high, birth rates are also high, and the number of children born by these women is large and the population is 'young' on the other hand, when fertility is low, birth rates are low, the number of children born is low and the population is "old" When birth rates are high, the population has a larger proportion of children relative to the adults of parental age. The sustained high level of birth rates results in a large proportion of children and

a small proportion of 'old' population and a low median age. When low level of birth rates persist, the result is a small proportion of children and a large proportion of old people. The mortality affects the age distribution to a much lesser extent than fertility. The effect of mortality on the age composition is just the opposite of what one would imagine. The large and rapid reduction in mortality and the probeugation of the life span have resulted in a 'younger' age distribution.

Effects of Migration : No such general rules can be laid down with respect to the effects of net migration on age composition. Two important factors have to be taken into consideration for determining this effect : the age distribution of the net migrants and the volume of net migration.

If the proportion and number of young adults among the net migrants is large, the effects of ageing of the population tend to get retarded. Since these young adults can participate in reproduction. If, on the other hand, the net migrants contribute mainly to the increase of those who are above the age of 30, the ageing process tends to get acceletated.

Effects of wars : The age-sex composition of a proportion is directly affected by war casualties, which mainly affect males in the younger age groups. Wars also affect age composition because of the indirect effect they have on fertility, during a war, men in the armed forces are separated from their wives for long periods, and this inhibits fertility.

Marital status : The customs and conditions of marriage in any country have a great impact on the future population growth by affecting the span of child-bearing age. The fertility behaviour is much affected by the age of puberty and the age of menopause. The early the marriage the greater the span of child bearing and the greater the possibility of mother-hood, leaving other socio-demongraphic conditions aside. On the contrary, widowhood, separation, divorce have adverse effects on the growth of the population.

In, India, due to early marriage, there has been a greater possibility of the rise of the entire child bearing age. The age at marriage is very high in other countries, due to which their span of child bearing is very small. Also the capacity of child bearing decreases with the increase in age. Due to the early marriage the possibility of widowhood increases which may hamper the growth of population, if not marriage. Thus, religious and social compulsoriness of marriage, early marriage, child on the marriage of widows and widowers etc. are some of the most important factors which determine the future growth of population.

Question

1. What is population composition ? Discuss its main factors.
2. Discuss the population composition on the basis of age, sex and marital status.

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COMPOSITION OF INDIAN POPULATION

India is a vast country, second most populous and seventh largest country in the world. It was that in 1872 when the first all India census was organized. The next census was taken in 1881. Since 1881, however, there has been census at regular intervals of ten years. The last census in the country was taken in 2001.

Sex Ratio in India : According to 2001 census in India, for every 1,000 males there are 933 females. However, in 1901, this ratio was 972 and in 1931, it was 950. In Kerala, Dadra and Nagar Haveli, however, there are more female as compared to male. In Sikkim there are only 863 females, against 1000 males. On the whole in India the sex ratio has gradually declined as shown in the table below :

	Population (Millions)		Females per 1000 males
	Males	Females	
1901	120.8	117.4	972
1911	128.4	123.7	964
1921	128.5	122.8	955
1931	142.9	135.8	950
1941	163.7	154.7	945
1951	185.5	135.6	946
1961	226.3	212.9	941
1971	284.0	264.1	930
1981	353.3	330.5	934
1991	425.6	375.6	927
2001	531.3	495.7	933

As compared to other countries of the world sex ratio in India is lower. In most of the countries more females are available for an equal number of males, but in India the position is reverse. Against per 1000 males, the number of available females in some of the countries of the world is as under.

Australia	979
Canada	978
England	1069
East Germany	1195
France	1058
Japan	1036
USA	1080
USSR	1220
West Germany	1118

A question, therefore, arises as to why less females are available in India. There are several causes responsible for this. One cause could be that in the past the people did not pay much attention towards woman. Their health and care was nobody's concern. Since the girls were not favoured in the family, therefore, even if a girl died no one bothered. Moreover, in the past adequate medical facilities were not available and quite a good number of pregnant women died at the time of delivery. There was also the system of child marriage and a girl used to get a child at a very young age. This resulted in the deterioration of their health and subsequent death at an early age. Since independence, much attention is being paid to the health of the women, yet the number of available female per one thousand male is not increasing and the position in India remains the same as it was in the past.

The Sex Ratio in Rural and Urban Area :— According to 1991 census the country's total population was 846.3 million, out of which 629 million persons were living in rural areas consisting of 185 million males and 117 million females. In the urban area 217.2 million persons consisted of 190 million males and 56 million females). The Number of available females per one thousand males in some important cities in India was Ahmedabad (832), Bombay (721) Bangalore (875), Calcutta (696), Delhi (791), Hderabad (927) Kanpur (762) and Madras (902).

The following table shows the sex ratio in the rural and urban areas as reported by different censuses.

	Rural	Urban
1901	979	910
1911	975	872
1921	970	946
1931	966	838
1941	965	831
1951	965	859
1961	963	845
1971	951	847
1981	954	880

Age composition of Population— According to the 1971 census, of the total population, 42.02% were children, and about 6% of the total population consisted of the old and the aged. According to the available figures, the age structure in India was as follows :

Age group	0 to 14	15 to 19	20 to 24	25 to 29	30 to 39	40 to 49	50 to 59	60 and above
% of total population	42.0	8.7	7.9	7.4	12.6	9.4	6.1	6.0
Male	41.87	8.88	7.6	7.16	12.52	9.69	6.34	5.94
Female	41.20	8.42	8.15	7.76	12.70	9.96	5.82	5.99

According to India, 1990, age structure showing the percentage of different age groups to total population was as under.

Age group	1	15	20	25	30	40	50	60
	to	to	to	to	to	to	to	and
	14	19	24	29	39	49	59	above
% of								
Total population	42.0	8.7	7.9	7.4	12.6	9.4	6.1	6.0

Composition and age structure is playing an important role in India. It is because on this depends the activity and policy of the state about providing schooling facilities, buildings for schools, employment of teachers, provision for higher education, vocation and job opportunities and so on and so forth. This also helps the future development of the working population and the death and the birth rate. It is because all those who take birth do not survive, throughout and with the passing of every day their number goes on decreasing. The more the deaths at the growing age the more shall be the wastage of the national wealth and resources, because the nation is supposed to invest on the upbringing and educating the children. A Bonne in his studies in 'Economic Development' has said, 'Economically speaking under-developed countries suffer a considerable loss of investment both material and non-material in the upbringing and educational effects in respect of a substantial number of young people who never reach the prime of life.'

Urban-Rural Population : From the census of 1981 it becomes clear that India is rapidly becoming urbanized. In 1901, of India's total population, 89% lived in villages. This percentage increased to 90% in 1911, but came down to 89% again in 1921. It further came down to 88% in 1931, to 86% in 1941, to 83% in 1951 and still further down to 82% in 1961, to 89% in 1971 76% in 1981 only. In 1991 it came down to 74% in other words, whereas in 1901 only 11% people lived in the cities, in 1981 this percentage doubled itself and has become 26%. Briefly speaking about 62.90 crore persons lived in the villages where as 21.72 crore lived in the towns. According to India 1990, the urban rural population was as under.

Years	Rural population (%)	Urban Pop. (%)
1921	88.8	11.2
1931	88.0	12.0
1941	86.1	13.9
1951	82.7	17.3
1961	82.0	18.0
1971	80.1	19.9
1981	76.4	23.7
1991	74.3	25.7

According to 1991 census in India there were about 580,781 villages and 4,689 towns ; 5,64,603 villages had a population of less than 5000, whereas 13,376 had a population of 5,000 and above. There are 148 towns, which have a population of over one lakh and 23 among them have more than 1 million. The state wise distribution of villages and towns in India is as follows :

Name of State	Total No. of Village	Total No. of Towns
Andhra Pradesh	26,586	213
Assam	24,685	69
Bihar	67,513	211
Gujarat	18,028	225
Haryana	6,759	65
Himanchal Pradesh	16,997	35
Jammu Kashmir	6,503	43
Karnataka	27,066	254
Kerala	1,384	88
Madhya Pradesh	71,521	433
Maharashtra	40,412	290
Manipur	2,182	8
Meghalaya	5,484	3
Nagaland	1,216	3
Orissa	46,989	78
Punjab	12,428	106
Rajasthan	37,889	215
Sikkim	447	7
Tamil Nadu	15,822	260
Tripura	885	6
U.P.	1,12,803	702
West Bengal	37,910	160
	5,80,781	2,643

There are several other reasons responsible for urbanization in India. The pressure on land in rural areas very much increasing and is not in a position to feed many mouths. In addition, the population in the urban areas is increasing in course of time as well. Chances of employment and starting new types of work are ever increasing in the urban than in the rural areas and so is the case with educational and other facilities. There is an ever increasing lack of arable land.

Religious Composition— The following table gives the population of India by religion as reported at the 1991 census along with its percentage distribution. Besides, Hindus, Muslims, Christians, Sikhs, Buddhists and Jains, there are a number of other religious groups in the country that have been reported in the census but their numbers do not exceed a million at the all India level and have, therefore, not been indicated separately in this table.

Hindus accounting for 82.41 percent of the total form the predominant part of India's population. Only a few states and union territories like Punjab, Jammu Kashmir, Nagaland, Arunachal Pradesh, Meghalaya and Laksha Dweep have Hindu population below 50 percent.

Population of India by Various Religions, 1991

Religion	Population in Million	Proportion in total Population				Decadal growth rate in %
		1961	1971	1981	1991	
Hindu	672.6	83.51	82.72	82.6	82.61	23.69
Muslim	95.2	10.70	11.21	11.4	11.67	30.85
Christian	18.9	2.44	2.60	2.4	2.32	32.60
Sikhs	16.3	1.79	1.89	2.0	1.99	32.60
Buddhists	6.3	0.73	0.70	0.7	0.77	17.20
Jains	3.4	0.46	0.47	0.5	0.41	28.48
Others	3.5	0.34	0.40	0.4	0.43	26.10

95.2 million Muslims constituting 11.66 percent of the total population form the next largest religious group. Jammu and Kashmir and the Lakshadweep are the two areas where the Muslims are in absolute majority. There are 38 districts in the country in which Muslims form 20 percent or more of the total population. As the growth rate of the Muslims is much above the national average in past decades, their proportion in the total population has increased from 10.7 percent in 1961 to 11.67 percent in 1991.

The Christians form the third major group in India. Unlike Hindus and Muslims, Christians are almost concentrated in a few states. The three southern states of Kerala, Tamil Nadu and Andhra Pradesh together account for more than 60 percent of the Christians population of the country. In the north-eastern states of Meghalaya and Nagaland, the population is predominantly Christian. The sex ratio among the Christians is much above the national average but still females do not form a majority.

Of the other three religious groups Sikhs are concentrated largely in Punjab which accounts for 79 percent of the total Sikh population of the country. Buddhists are mostly confined to Maharashtra. Jains are spread over Gujarat, Maharashtra and Rajasthan, but they form a very small proportion of the total population in all these states.

Questions

1. What is the Indian population composition? Discuss the age and sex composition.
2. Describe the rural, urban and religious compositions of population in India.

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2. M.K. Premi — **Introduction to Social Demography**
3. O.S. Shrivastava — **Demography**

DEMOGRAPHIC VARIABLE OF INDIAN POPULATION

India today possesses about 2.4 percent of the total land area of the world but she has to support about 16.2 percent of the world population. The world's present estimated population is over 6000 millions and India's population constitutes about one-sixth of the world's population. According to the estimates of the census of 2001 the population of India is 102.7 crores. India's population is larger than the combined population of Bangladesh, Indonesia, Myanmar, Malaysia, Pakistan, Philippines, Vietnam, Thailand and Sri Lanka. The Mainland of China is the only country whose population exceeds that of India.

At the present rate of growth, estimated to be 2.13 percent a year, India's population is increasing at the rate of 16 million a year. It is as though the entire population of a country such as Australia is added every year.

Growth of India's Population before 1891 :

Population Growth up to 1600 A.D. : Since the ancient times, India has had the legacy of a thickly settled population. The excavation at Harappa and Mohenjo-Daro reveal that, as far as the third and fourth millennium B.C., India had a highly developed civilization, and large and densely populated cities. It appears that even three to seven thousand years ago, India possessed adequate technological knowledge to support a dense population. The available records for the first timely Indian empire, under the rule of Chandra Gupta Maurya almost three centuries before Christ, reveal that this empire could maintain a standing army of about 700,000 men. It may well be presumed from this that a substantial population must have been required to maintain such a large army. Putting together all the available evidence, Davis asserts, "Before the Christian Era' India had a substantial population, first because of its advanced technology and second because of the fertile environment for the application of this technology. Confirming the estimates of Davis, Pran Nath estimates that, around 300 B.C. the population of Ancient India was between 100 million and 140 million.

Estimates made by Moreland the well known historian, reveal, that in 1600 AD, the population of India was around 100 million. It therefore, appears that from 300 B.C. to 1600 A.D., a period of over two thousand years, Indian population was almost stationary. The underlying reason for this near static growth of population was the same as that Pre-industrial period. There were some fluctuations in population size but the decisive factor in population growth was the death rate. During this period, death rates were high and fluctuating, while birth rates were high, were more or less stable. This stage can be termed as the stage of high stationary growth.

Population Growth from 1600 to 1870.

It is unfortunate that very little documentary evidence is available on the basis of which estimates of population size for the period 1600-1870 may be made. Heavy reliance has, therefore, to be placed on the impressions of the Europeans who, during this period, visited India or stayed in India for different periods of time for either trade or military purposes.

Population of India

Years	Sources	Population (in million)
300 B.C.	Pran Nath	100-140
1600 A.D.	More land	100
1800	Play fair	120
1820	Hamilton	134
1834	M'culloch	130
1845	M'culloch	130
1855	Registrar General of Great-Britain	175
1855	Parliamentary Paper	181
1865	Parliamentary Paper	191
1867	Registrar General of Great-Britain	194
1871	Davis	255
1874-75	Parliamentary	238
1881	Census	250

Davis, who attempting to reconstruct the growth of population in India during the period 1660 to 1875 on the basis of the all available evidence, has finally arrived at the conclusion that "there is little use trying to puzzle out India's growth rate prior to the census period 1881. The next policy is to revise Moreland's figure for 1600 upward to 125 millions, and to assume that the population remained at this point for one and a half centuries more, after which a gradual enhancement of growth began accelerating as 1870 approached.

Population Growth from 1871 to 1901 :

From 1871 onwards, the base for the studying of the population of India is more firm for actual counts rather than only estimates are avoidable. Their actual counts, however, can not be accepted as reliable because, with each census, additional territories were converted and improvements effected in the methodology of conducting a census. The necessary adjustments in the total population figures have, therefore, been made.

The population count for 1867-1871 was 203.4 million, which the adjustment figure was 255.2 million. The growth rate of India's population, computed on the basis of adjusted figures, indicates that between 1861-71 and population increased at the rate of 0.9 percent, while during 1881-91, it increased by 9.4 percent. In the next decade (1891-1901), however, the growth rate went down to 1.0 percent. The fluctuation in the rates of growth may be evaluated from the following figures :

Year	Growth rate
1881	0.9
1891	9.4
1901	1.0
1910	5.7

Population Growth in the 20th Century :

Table below presents the growth of India's population from 1901 to 1991. It may be noted that the figures have been adjusted for the territorial changes which occurred because of the partition of the Indian sub-continent into two countries, India and Pakistan. The population figures given for the period prior to 1901, however refer to undivided India.

1. The course of population growth up to 1921 was undulating. The decades of marked increased regularly alternated with decades of small increases. While during 1911-1921 a negative growth was experienced.

2. The absolute number of people added to the population during each decade has been on the increase since 1921.

3. The decennial of growth has also increased from 1921 onwards. So have the compound rates. From 1951 onwards, India's population has been growing at a phenomenal rate. While during 1941-51, The average decennial growth rate was around 13 percent after 1951, it increased rapidly to 21.6 percent and during 1961-71, 24.8 percent. From 1971 to 1991, there has been an increase of 118.1 percent in the population, which has more than doubled in 50 years.

As each of these points is important for an understanding of the growth of population in India, further elaboration are undertaken in the following table.

Table
Population decadal Variation India 1901-1991

Year	Population (in crores)	Decadal Variation	Percentage Decade Variation
1901	23.8	—	
1911	25.21	+13,697,063	+ 5.75
1921	25.13	- 772,177	- 0.31
1931	27.90	+ 27,656,025	+ 11.00
1941	31.87	+ 39,683,342	+ 14.22
1951	36.11	+ 42,420,485	+ 13.31
1961	43.92	+ 77,682,873	+ 21.51
1971	54.82	+108,924,881	+ 24.80
1981	68.33	+135,169,445	+ 24.66
1991	84.63	+160,601,764	+ 23.85

It may be observed in table that, in the decade of 1911-21, The population of India went down. This is a very striking phenomenon. Sporadic rates of population growth were also noticed during the period 1867-1871 to 1901. The underlying reason of such ups and downs was the heavy mortality due to various catastrophies, such as famines and epidemics. It was during this period that a great famine occured in 1876-1877. Again, during the decade 1891-1901, there were a series of severe famines and an epidemic of plague. It has been reported that five million deaths occurred due to famines during this decade.

During 1901-1911, the seasonal conditions were much more favourable according to the census reports, which refer to the agricultural conditions as being 'normal' or even prosperous. No suggestion of famines as being important causes of high mortality is found in these reports. It appears, therefore, that the days when people died in large numbers due to local crop failures were over. Improved transportation and communication because of the building of roads and railways had reduced the violation of certain areas. These changed conditions were reflected in population growth, and the rate of this growth rose to 5.7 percent during the normal decade of 1901-11.

All the fluctuations in the population growth in the preceding periods pale into significance when the situation during 1911-21 is considered. This decade was extraordinary in many ways. The natural checks which are known to curb the growth of population were found to operate during this period.

After 1921, the Indian population started increasing. The year 1921 is designated 'The great divide' in the sense that it is the turning point which marks the beginning of a regular growth in India's population and also the beginning of a rapid and massive population growth in India.

The post 1921 period witnessed a rapid population growth. The thirty years period (1921—51) saw population growth, while the increase in the population after 1951 could well be called explosive—78 million were added to the Indian population, between 1951 and 1961, 109 million between 1961 and 1971 136 million between 1971 and 1981 and another 160.6 million by 1991.

With very little and late reduction in the birth rate in India, this only shows the impact of mortality reduction both among infants and older persons. This current picture, however, indicates that birth rates and death rates are both declining in India, resulting in a slower growth rate. According to the Registrar General birth rate in 1996 was 27.4 per thousand, death rate was 8.9 per thousand population, resulting in a growth rate of 21.4 per thousand.

Though the growth rate of India's population appears to be high, there are several other developing countries with even higher growth rate.

Question

1. Explain the Demographic Variable of India.
2. Discuss the Indian Population and Density.

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1. S.N. Agarwal — **Population of India.**
2. Bose, Ashish — **The Population Puzzle in India.**

MORTALITY : DETERMINANTS AND CONSEQUENCES WITH SPECIAL REFERENCE TO INFANT AND CHILD

Population of a country depends mainly on four elements namely birth rate, mortality, migration and immigration. Birth rate and immigration are instrumental in increasing the population while the other two elements cause decrease. Usually population of a country is on increase, more or less.

Death is generally undesirable. It is the result of disease, loss of physical strength and general health condition, violence, accidents and others. Bodily condition stoppage of respiration and temperature of blood is considered as death. Causes of death are found in socio-economic conditions and medical case of a specific community. For example, if contagious diseases are the causes of death in developing countries, accidents and mental tensions are mainly responsible for more death in developed countries. In other words, there are some determinants which encourage mortality and some control it.

Firstly, here one has to discuss the infant mortality and its determinants.

Infant Mortality :

Studies related to mortality indicate that all sections of a society do not have the same impact of mortality. If mortality is discussed on the basis of age, it becomes evident that a particular age group is more prone to mortality— death— than other section. Generally earlier periods of one's life are more exposed to death and gradually with the increase of age death rate is lowered down. After that, during the later periods of one's life particularly after the age of 60 years mortality rate is on increase.

In demography infant mortality occupies special importance. All live-born infants died within a year are studied under its heading. Efforts are made to know the infant mortality rate— death of infants having the age upto one year per thousand. Generally among all deaths, proportion of infant death is reported or found to be the highest.

The formula for estimating infant mortality rate is as follow :

$$\text{Infant Mortality} = \frac{\text{Total number of deaths of live born infants belonging to the age upto one year in specific year}}{\text{Total number of live born infants}} \times 1000$$

Medical scientists and related researchers have classified infant mortality in two : (i) Neo-natal mortality covering the deaths of those alive infants whose age varies upto 4 weeks or one months and (ii) Post neo-natal mortality covering the deaths of those alive infants whose age varies between four weeks to one year or 48 weeks.

In context of India it has been found that infant mortality rate is very high. On the basis of demographic data in 1976 it has been estimated that infant mortality rate per thousand is 19.

Child Mortality :

As it is clear that demographers have discussed death of less than one year infant under infant mortality. As such somewhere it is said that an infant period consists of those whose age varies between one to four years and childhood period includes those between five to fourteen years of age. In fact, it is child (not an infant) that enters into a school and also leaves the school after getting school-education during childhood period. This period is very important for the family and society as well, and also from demographic angle. Every family, society and nation try to minimise the child mortality rate through efforts for controlling common diseases of which children are usually affected and for enlarging medical facilities. Failure of such efforts cause higher child death in developing or undeveloped countries.

On the basis of demographic data of 1976 it is estimated that mortality rate for the children of 1-4 years is 18.5 per thousand and it is 8.7 for those of 5 to 14 years of age. That is indicative of higher mortality rate of Indian children.

The Determinants :

There are various determinants of mortality of infant and child. It is a fact that some determinants influence infant mortality more effectively while some others are more effective in case of mortality of persons of other age categories— child, youth and others.

First of all determinants of infant mortality are discussed below in brief.

The factors determining infant mortality are usually classified into two categories :

(i) Birth related determinants concerning mainly to neo-natal death include the following :

- (a) Congenital Malformation.
- (b) Immature birth, say weighing less than 2500 grammes.
- (c) Birth wounds.
- (d) Asphyxia
- (e) Bad rearing.

(ii) The second category of the determinants, said to be external, is related mainly to post-natal death. It includes the following :

- (a) Pneumonia
- (b) Dysentery, diarrhoea
- (c) Environment pollution
- (d) Accidents
- (e) Poverty
- (f) Illiterate parents
- (g) Early marriage and higher birth rate
- (h) Infective and parasitic diseases.

The determinants said to be external in case of infant mortality are also found responsible for child mortality. There are other factors also which are given below in brief :

- (i) Poor sanitation at home and school of the child and at other places.
- (ii) Poor medical development and facilities available.
- (iii) Poverty in child's family and outside.
- (iv) Inability or inadequate arrangement for the control of contagious diseases
- (v) Malnutrition
- (vi) Social backwardness as ignorance, superstition, belief in witchcraft etc.
- (vii) Backwardness in agriculture and other economic fields.
- (viii) Industrial and under slums.

The above mentioned factors are found more effective and influential in developing countries and so higher mortality rate particularly concerning children is found. But the case is otherwise in the developed countries.

Consequences of mortality with special reference to infant and child :—

In brief it may be said that size of a population decreases because of mortality. Such shortage is compensated through the process of procreation. In fact, population of any country is mainly determined by birth rate and death rate. As such, except old age death infant mortality is found highest among other deaths of various age groups. Where infant mortality rate is found to be very high, there its proportion in total deaths is also very high. Lower infant mortality is indicative of better life style and public health facilities. At such place birth rate also is reported to be lower because there is greater possibility of infants to be alive. But where infant and child mortality rates are found to be higher, there birth rate would also be higher. It is so because a couple would always be fearful regarding the life of the infant or child. It also indicates the poor level of socio-economic conditions and medical facilities.

According to David M. Heer mortality does not influence only the size of a population but also its structure, nature, customs and tradition, socio-economic structure and function and others. In brief consequences of mortality are discussed below and infant and child mortality consequences would be presented here and there.

(i) Impact on birth rate : If death rate— infant or child — mortality is higher at a place birth rate would also be higher. In developing countries like India it is found so.

(ii) Impact on family size : It is said that where mortality rate is higher there emerges joint family system. And if infant or child mortality rate is lower there is found nuclear family, more in number as is found in the developed countries like USA, Great Britain and others.

(iii) Impact on nature of marriage : Heer puts more emphasis on his view that in the societies where mortality rate is very high there marriage is arranged by the parents or guardians. It is found valid in case of developing countries like India.

(iv) Impact on life expectancy : In a society where mortality rate is low or made low there life expectancy is increased.

(v) Impact on death rate of the old : It is said that when infant and child mortality rates are controlled and consequently decreased then death rate of the old is on increase. It is so because it is natural that the old ones would die more and more.

(vi) Neglect of the child offspring : When infant or child death takes place frequently parents begin to hesitate to take proper care of their offspring. It is so because they become so pessimistic that it is always feared of the death of the infant or child.

(vii) Shattering of self-confidence : Frequent deaths, higher mortality, in the family become instrumental in shattering the self confidence of family members particularly parents who sometimes begin to develop negative attitude towards life and also their belief system is shattered.

(viii) Emergence of the situation of mental imbalance : In modern and developed nations mortality rate has been lowered down and that has caused the disappearance of customs and institutions related to death mourning. As a result family members begin to behave normally just after death of a family member, say an infant, youth or old ones. Heer opiñes that time is the best healer. Ways and duration of mourning has been helpful to be mentally balance after death. But now a days more cases of mental imbalances are reported particularly in developed nations as importances of institutional ways of mourning have been forgotten.

(ix) Emergence of Pessimistic outlook : Were mortality rate is higher people usually start disbelieving the importance of a planning for the future, say saving and investment. As they are not sure that their children would alive how long (as in such nations life expectancy is also very low) and so do not consider any use of activities for future consequently they develop pessimistic outlook that affects family members and others, even society at large negatively.

Lesson -11

FAMILY PLANNING : CONCEPT, OBJECTIVE AND EVOLUTION

Family planning, 'planned' parenthood, 'conception, and birth control are terms generally used for a conscious responsible control of conception. It does not, however, mean any interference with the life after conception has taken place ? But it consists solely in preventing the union of the ovum and the sperm or the implantation of the fertilized ovum or the utrine wall. In simple words, it means the control of reproduction so that people are able to produce children when desired and prevent their recreation when they are not wanted. Contraception means against conception, or

interference with conception. It involves the use of intelligent scientific and hygienic knowledge to determine the proper time for an important function to occur i.e., the birth of a child and to limit its possibilities to those times. According to Margret Sanger, 'By birth control we mean conscious control of birth by means that prevents conceptions. In a family in a manner proper to the conditions of the parents, physical and economic, as well as the requirements of maternal health and the consideration that a bringing up the children ought to be primarily a parental responsibility, prevent and not interfere with life after the conception has started.'

Reynold H. Boyd, also says "The proper purpose of contraception is not to prevent family but to limit children to reasonable numbers and to space out their arrival in a manner most suited to the health and wealth of the mothers."

An expert committee of Who has defined family planning as a way of thinking and living that is adopted voluntarily, upon the basis of knowledge, attitudes and responsible decisions by individuals and couples in order to promote the health and the welfare of the family group and thus contribute effectively to the social development of the country."

Another expert committee has defined family planning, thus, "Family planning refers to practices that help individuals or couples to attain certain objectives, (a) to avoid unwanted births, (b) to bring about wanted children; (c) regulate the intervals between pregnancies; (d) to control the time at which births occur in relation to the ages of the parents; and (e) to determine the number of children in the family."

"Birth control" is really 'conception control i.e., to allow conception to occur only when desired and prevent it when not desired. This term has now been replaced all over the world, by a more sophisticated term "Family planning or "planned parenthood," Family planning now includes in it, purview (i) "the proper spacing and limitation of births (ii) advice on sterility, (iii) education for parenthood, (iv) sex education, (v) screening for pathological conditions related to the reproductive system, (e.g. cervical cancer) (vi) genetic counselling, (vii) pre-marital consultation and examination, marriage counselling; (ix) carrying out pregnancy tests; (x) the preparation of the couple for the arrival of their first child; (xi) providing services for unmarried mothers; (xii) teaching home economics and nutrition; and (xiii) providing adoption services.

Objective— The objective of modern "conception control, is to enable a married couple to lead a normal sex life. Such a life can be lead if the couple is forced from the worries of unwanted pregnancies, from sexual relation, at least for some years, so that the couple may adjust themselves to each other, and enjoy sexual life freely. The use of contraceptives increases the happiness of marriage making it possible for the couples to copulate when they desire and to enjoy voluntary parenthood at the same time and also not to have more children than a couple can afford to rear and educate. Contraception aims at achieving parenthood, not by chance, force or accidents but by choice, plan or design.

Michael Fielding has put the main points in favour of contraception Thus "Those who

advocate birth control believe that involuntary or accidental parenthood is unworthy of the dignity of civilized men and women, that the fear of undesired impregnation is devastating to the happiness of married couples, that a rapid series of pregnancies is dangerous to the health of the woman who undergoes them; that the adults have the right for their own sake, to separate the two fold functions of sexual intercourse, the full enjoyment of coitus and the enjoyment of voluntary parenthood; and that children have an even better right to be brought into being, not as a punishment for other peoples, sins; but only if and when their birth is whole heartedly desired and consciously provided for.

The United Nations Conference on Human Rights in Tehran in 1968 recognized family planning as a basic human right. The Prucharest Conference on the world population in August 1974, endorsed the same view and stated in its "plan of Action" that.

" All couples and individuals, have the basic human right to decide freely and with responsibility the number and spacing of their children and to have the information, education and means to do so..... Information provided about and education in family planning and other matters which affect fertility should be based on valid and proven scientific knowledge, and include a full account of any risk that may be involved in the use or non-use of contraceptives.

The World Conference of International Women's year (1975) also emphasized.

"That right of women to decide freely and responsibility on the number and spacing of their children and to have access to the information and means to enable them to exercise their right"

It will thus appear, that family planning through contraceptives, tries to achieve two main objectives : (i) to have only the desired number of children, and (ii) to have these children by a proper spacing of pregnancies.

Evaluation of Family Planning : The concept of family planning and the idea of controlling the birth in India is coming from half a century back. Since 1947, after the independence of the country, steps have been taken to improve the general standard of living by increasing the economic resources and by controlling the population. The family planning drive in India was first seriously started by the army in 1949. The family planning association was established in 1952 to study the peoples opinion regarding family planning, to spread the knowledge of modern contraceptives among the people. The only method sanctioned by India in 1951 was the rhythm method. In the All India Conference of 1952 held in India, with the collaboration of medical practitioners, economists, demographers, and other scientists of nationals and international level numerous decisions were taken to strengthen voluntary efforts, to establish active work to propagate knowledge of modern contraceptives, to give training to the doctors regarding the techniques of contraception and devising educational and motivational programmes to spread the knowledge of contraception and to motivate the couples to restrict the number of children according to their economic capacity of maintaining their health and living standard. The following data show the investments in the area of family planning.

Indian Investment in Family Planning

Five Year Plan period	F.P. (out lay) Rs. in Crore	F.P. out lay as% of total public sector	Actual expen diture as percentage of allocation
First Plan (1951—56)	0.65	0.03	21.5
Second Plan (1956—61)	4.97	0.10	43.5
Third Plan (1961—66)	27.00	0.43	92.1
Inter Plan (1966—69)	82.93	0.54	82.5
Fourth Plan (1969—74)	315.00	1.08	88.2
Fifth Plan (1974—75)	492.00	1.26	98.2
Sixth Plan (1979—)	_____	_____	_____

In the First Five Year Plan Rs. 65 lakhs were granted by the Health Department for this purpose, 120 family planning clinics were setup in urban areas and in rural areas. Efforts were made to build up an active public opinion in favour of Family Planning through obtaining an accurate estimation of factors. For this, grants were provided to local authorities, voluntary organizations and Scientific institution etc.

In the Second Five Year Plan, Rs. 5 Crore were assigned. This led to the opening of more clinics and provision of additional facilities in this regard. The number of clinics was thus increased to 549 in the urban and 1,100 in the rural areas. Central and State Family Planning Boards were set up with a Director at the centre to supervise programmes. Training centres were opened to train doctors, midwives, field workers, health visitors etc.

Under the Third Five Year Plan, 27 crores of rupees were granted to strengthen the administrative machinery, both at the Centre and the State level. The greater mass education programme was revised, voluntary organisations were encouraged to assist the government in campaigning the family planning programmes, training the family planning worker's and supplying the birth control equipments.

The Inter Plan Period (1966—69) saw the completion of 4,326 family welfare planning centres, 22,826 sub-centres and 1997 urban FWP centres and the integration of MCH schemes with family planning.

The Fourth Five Year Plan (1969-74) renewed the stress on mass education and the use of all contraceptive methods. That was the cafeteria approach and put a high priority on the construction for medical and paramedical personnel in rural areas in the earlier years of the plan.

In the Fifth Five Year Plan, 497 crore rupees were granted by the Health Department to open

the Family Planning and Health Centres. By the end of (1974—79) the department had built-up a fairly large infrastructure though it could not complete the target.

In the Sixth Five Year Plan, 1010 crore rupees was granted by the Central government. In the draft sixth five year plan, the family planning programme was expanded in scope and content into a family welfare programme with an integrated approach towards family planning, maternity and child health and nutrition.

The statements showing Family Planning performance in the sixth plan are :

Year	Target Achievement	Sterlization	IUD	Eq. ce & op. Users.
1979—80	Target	3.05	1.15	5.50
	Achievement	1.78	0.63	3.07
1980—81	Target	2.90	0.79	5.54
	Achievement	2.05	0.63	3.81
1981—82	Target	2.90	0.79	5.54
	Achievement	2.79	0.75	3.81
1982—83	Target	4.53	1.52	7.00
	Achievement	1.54	0.48	3.72

As is well known, the family planning programme has a solid background. The credibility of the programme has been restored through concrete action and keen interest taken in this programme by the Prime Minister Smt. Indira Gandhi.

The following table shows the achievement in the adoption of the birth control from the second fifth plan.

ACHIEVEMENT IN BIRTH CONTROL IN INDIA THROUGH 5 YEAR PLAN

Period	Sterlization		IUD	Equivalent conversion of contraceptive uses.	Percentage of couple
	Vasectomy	Tubectomy			
Second Plan (1956—61)	70965	81712	—	—	0.2
Third Plan (1961—66)	1068638	304528	812713	582141	3.0
Inter Plan (1966—69)	3816583	575413	2057436	960896	8.7
Fourth Plan (1969—74)	6571106	2432520	2149160	3009995	14.9
Fifth Plan (1974—79)	8437064	4795491	1945648	3252570	22.6
Sixth Plan (1979—84)	390922	1092985	551551	3469072	22.4

There are clear indications that the family planning programme is being implemented more seriously now by most of the states, since a favourable climate has now been created for it. Special efforts are required to promote contraceptive and oral pills for which the free distribution and commercial programme are being strengthened.

Questions

1. Define family planning. Discuss its main objectives.
2. What is the concept of family planning. Define the objectives of family planning.
3. Define family planning. Discuss evaluation of family planning programme in India.

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Lesson -12

BARRIERS OF FAMILY PLANNING

Earlier death rate was closure to birth rate and so population growth was not considered as a problem. The population of India began to grow slowly upto the turn of the twentieth century and rapidly after 1921. The population explosion becomes more alarming when the young and the old groups— two unproductive ends of the age scale— are disproportionally large, the burden of supporting them fall on the small percentage of the gainfully employed. Consequently various socio-economic and political problems emerge. Different schemes and programmes have been launched in independent India by the government for raising the standard of living of the people. But the alarming rate of population growth is considered as the greatest obstacle in the path of over all socio-economic development of the nation.

The following solutions are mainly advocated in developing countries like India :

(i) Scientific agricultural development, (ii) large scale industrialization, (iii) Internal migration and (iv) Birth control.

Among them birth control through family planning is considered as the most important measure for meeting the problem of over-population. Because of such reasons, in the very first five year plan of India importance of family planning was emphasised not only as a major development programme but also as a national movement. Since then its utilities have vigorously been advocated in successive five year plans and by government and other agencies so that the impact of economic growth may not be nullified by a large population growth. But this programme has made small dint here and there largely in middle class and urban areas but in the slums and in the countryside the impact is far from evident. A number of experiments have been made but the

social-cultural and other factors appears as insurmountable barriers. Not much has been done to combat them or to educate people about the small family norm. Among the barriers the following are discussed below in brief :

Distinguished importance of tradition and conservatism in Indian social life :

Modernisation of the Indian society and economy has been started consciously after independence. But even today it has not reached several regions and several aspects of human life. Traditions are held not only as good but rather are welcomed and idealised. Having more and more children is considered a traditional practice and so a welcome phenomenon for the family and community. So little interest is shown in family planning measures by such persons or community.

(ii) Lack of Modern education :

Illiteracy is quite wide spread in India and people lack modern education. Such people are not in a position to anticipate the benefits of family planning. Accordingly they take little interest in its programme. Here it may be mentioned that priorities of modern education are such that educated ones too fail to evaluate the evil consequences of population growth in proper perspectives. So, birth rate has not been controlled even in some families or regions the literacy has been poor.

(iii) Lack of education among women :

Illiteracy is more pronounced in case of women in India. They have little opportunity to have modern education. In fact, most of the women belonging to backward classes are illiterate. They usually consider child bearing as a significant duty. They are not able to evaluate the advantages of family planning measures if they adopt. Ignorance is also at work there.

(iv) Lack of means of entertainment :

In Indian society people lack means of entertainment and usually have little resources for modern ones. As a result, they usually entertain through sexual activities and produce more and more children. Illiterate and poverty stricken people are more prone to such kind of entertainment, also because of their helplessness.

(v) Lack of positive-attitude towards family planning programmes :

Usually people have little positive attitude towards government schemes and programmes meant for socio-economic development. Many innovations are introduced through such programmes. People with weak resources and tradition oriented generally fail to adopt those innovations. In traditional India family planning itself appears as an innovation. Under this programme various measures are advocated for birth control and here also usually people with weak socio-economic background with illiteracy find it difficult to adopt those measures and advocate for their adoption by others. Consequently, birth control is not checked in their families. Thus their attitude becomes a barrier.

(vi) Lack of attributes of change among the personnels engaged in family planning programmes :

Virtually family planning programme is not only, like other programmes of development,

related to specific community or region but it serves a great national interest rather it has global significance. In other words, family planning is the need of the hour not only for the benefit of individual or the family or the community but for the nation or world at large. Personnels engaged in such programme usually lack such perspective and try to perform their duties like other government work. They take little trouble to motivate people— ignorant and poor ones— to adopt family planning measures. Such people are first needed to be taught the importance and benefits of small family and be encouraged to develop the family norms accordingly. The personnels engaged in such programmes should be provided training for becoming change—agent in tradition-bound India and they should also be encouraged for better performances.

(vii) Limited world- view of the common people :

Generally people have very limited world view and so they fail to understand the implications or advantages they can bring for the nation just by adopting family planning measures, managing birth control in the family properly. Many people are handicapped in various respects and traditional values have also made them more conservative. Accordingly their world view has also been influenced. Such people take little interest in birth control measures rather prove to be a barrier.

(viii) Non-effectiveness of population control laws :

Various laws have been enacted in free India to modernise and develop or democratise the country. But in tradition dominated country where illiteracy and poverty are quite common modern laws related to population control also have not been effective as non-observance of the laws has become the traditional practice. Long ago child marriage was legally abolished. There is also provision in the marriage law that persons belonging to less than certain age are not to be married, it is a punishable offence. But in practice, child marriage is quite common in many communities and in several regions of the countries.

For controlling population Termination of Pregnancies Act (1971) was passed and accordingly abortion has become legal. But in traditional India its observance is considered as unethical and against religion. In fact, many rural people are not even aware of such law, what to talk of having benefit out of it.

Thus non-effectiveness of such laws have also become a barrier in family planning.

(ix) Inadequacy in institutionalization of small family norm :

The publicity of the family planning movement has been emphasising the nuclear family as a unit by pleading for the small family consisting of the married couple and their two children. In other words, due emphasis has been given for institutionalisation of small family norm. No doubt, it has been successful in urban areas and among aducated people. But still such norm has not adequately been institutionalised in rural areas and among illiterate poor people. Even today in India many poor people view that larger family is God gift.

(x) Religions, beliefs and practices :

There are such beliefs in various religions of India which indicate that birth control measures, abortion and others are against their religion. It is a sin to advocate or adopt such measures and so they should be discarded. Such views are found more among the illiterate, poor and tradition dominated communities. Such beliefs prove to be a great barrier in family planning.

(xi) Religions approval of child marriage :

Child marriage has a long tradition in India. For many people and in many communities such marriage-observance has been considered religious. For example, Shrotriya Brahmins (most of them have modern education) of north Bihar usually consider it a pious duty to marry their daughters at the age of 12-13 years. They take support of religious scriptures for such belief and practice although they are said to be educationally most developed in the region.

(xii) Prevalence of culture of poverty in Indian society :

Particularly poverty stricken people of backward classes have such culture which encourages large family size and more and more children. In such culture child labour is quite rampant. From the very childhood children of poor families begin to earn and contribute financially to their families. Consequently they are not considered as economic burden. Such people have little psychic mobility and their level of aspiration is quite low. Besides, they view that children are the gift of God and so human control over birth is against their religion. Modernisation has least affected them and being fatalist they consider the number of children as a matter of fate. No doubt changes in the culture of poverty has started taking place but very slowly.

(xiii) Lack in economic self-dependency in woman :

Mostly women depend economically on men. Women are usually illiterate and remain engaged in domestic work. Consequently their world view happens to be quite limited. They are more religious, conservative and traditional. Most of them fail to realise the usefulness of small family norms and functional implications of family planning measures. Leading the life of deprivations in male dominated societies. Women usually are not in a position to be self dependent economically and so in spite of willingness, fail to adopt family planning measures freely.

(xiv) Political factors :

In independent democratic India importance and relevance of votes has extensively been increased. Legal provision of adult franchise has enhanced the status of every individual voter, irrespective of sect, caste or religion. After independence politicization of caste and religion has been taking such direction that elections have been fought in the name of caste, caste category or religion. Persons engaged in politics usually fail to propagate family planning measures fearing the loss of votes of their caste people. Similar is the situation for those whose politics move around religion. In other words political leadership, not always, has been lacking political will for controlling population through advocating adoption of the measures by people. Besides, political leadership has not played effective role in making family planning movement a success whereas the national need of the hour has been constantly felt to control over population for proper and comprehensive socio-economic development of the country. Such political will for the success of the movement is badly needed in central and state governments.

Questions

1. Discuss the various constraints in the success of Family Planning in India.

MIGRATION : MEANING AND CHARACTERISTICS

Migration is an important source of demographic and other changes. However, it has not received as much attention from sociologists and other social scientist as it deserves. Usually migration is considered as movement of population and accordingly there are effects on size and composition of population. But sudden effects of migration are difficult to be anticipated. In fact, effects are found in both the population— at the place of origin and at the receiving end where migrants settle and make usual place of residence. However, movement of population can be classified into two.

(i) Local Movement and (ii) Migration

Local movement is such when local population move from one place to another for short duration. For example, for the purpose of business, source of employment hundreds of people move from one place to another. Many people visit Patna daily from different parts of Bihar. Government employes of Patna and other places of their work tour several places but their usual place of residence remains the same, no change therein.

But migration means movement of population from their usual place of residence to another place which become their place of residence as they settle there. Such place may be from one region, province or country. According to David Heer migration its "to shift from one's usual place of residence." Thus settling to a place from other place is migration. But migration is not usually for shorter duration. In fact, defining migration clearly is a very difficult job. In connection with service, for search of employment or business purpose, people usually are compelled to leave their usual place of residence and migrate. Every year poor people of Bihar migrate to Punjab and other places. Similarly, many Indian migrate to other countries for living. Thus migration may be internal or national and international. But any journey from one province to another or one country to another can not be levelled as migration even if it is done for longer duration as there is no change in the usual place of residence. If a student of Bihar stays in Delhi for study for 4 to 6 years, it is not migration as his Delhi stay is not his usual place of residence. On the other hand, if a government employee is transferred to another place where he stays for a week or so and again he is transferred to another place, in the case his both the places are his usual place of residence, although not for longer duration. It is therefore a case of migration. Thus, here it may be pointed out that it is very difficult to define duration of stay clearly. However, duration of stay and usual place of residence should be taken into consideration while defining or understanding migration.

Characteristics of Migration—

Migration is such a reality of human life that its history is as old as that of cultural man themselves. Any keen observer of history may conclude that migration has taken place in almost every civilized country. Contemporary U.S.A., is the outcome of people from different regions of Asia, Europe, Africa and Latin America. In different periods of history migration has taken place in

India from Middle East, Great Britain, France, Australia and other places. Even today Indians migrate from one province to another or one country to another. Migration siphons off surplus labour from areas of stationary or declining economic opportunities and transfers mobile elements of the population to areas of economic expansion. Accordingly, there occur changes in the size and composition of the population from where people migrate and also in that of the population where they migrate and settle. Numerically there is decrease in the other.

Migration provides mechanism for social and economic security. Migration takes place at the time of flood, famine, earthquake, caste or communal violence for the safety of the individuals and their families.

It acts as an instrument of cultural diffusion. People of various cultural background migrate to new places and settle there. They interact with the local population having different cultural values. Thus migration encourages cultural diffusion. According to several social scientists such diffusion promotes cultural growth.

Migration is characterised as promoting social integration in society. Internal migration distributes representatives from one region to through out the other regions. It helps in reducing inter- sectional and inter-regional differences and in building up of a common nation wide culture within which regional variations persist perhaps to a lesser degree.

It is an indicator of social change. In a country where the processes of modernization, industrialisation, urbanization and others are smooth and fast it is supposed that the rate of social change is also fast. In such country more migration takes place frequently and that indicates the intensity of social change. For Example, where an industry is established, there many people from various regions migrate in search of living. Anywhere in the world where industrialisation has taken place— whether in Asia, Europe, Latin America or else where, intensity of migration has been enlarged.

It also serves as a mechanism of labour force adjustment and equilibrium among different regions of the country or the world. Where birth rate is high population is large and there is lesser opportunities of employment. On the other hand there are regions or countries where birth rate is low and population is also less while there are ample job opportunities. In such situation through migration labour force adjustment and equilibrium may be maintained.

For a migrant it means both spatial and social and psychic mobility on account of exposure to new experiences. On return home, the migrant not only enjoys higher status for himself but also for the entire family. The acquisition of new attitude and skills promotes him to higher status and emancipates him from traditional inhibitions. For example, many people of North Bihar have migrated to Arab countries. Their acquisition of petro-dollar has enhanced the status of the migrants and their families. Even their villages stand to benefit from it as they bring money for the village.

Migration is also characterised to sharpening of cultural identity and growth of social tension between the migrants and the local population. It has thus potentialities is for disintegration and conflict. In India the right to migrate within the country is guaranteed by the constitution. All citizens

have the right to move freely through out the territory of India and to reside and settle in any part of the country. The Constitution also provides that those who move can retain their cultural and other identity. Migrants may get their students admitted to schools which conducts studies in their regional language. They have unrestricted rights to maintain their regional traditions and customs. Consequently, they observe festivals and perform rituals in their regional ways. One can easily find large number of one-cultural group of migrants in the traditional homeland of another culture maintaining their own life styles. However, the local population does not welcome migrants from another cultural area. There has been growing opposition to such migrants. It is generally believed that the local population has a first claim to employment and housing. Outsiders are regarded as exploiters and they and their children are expected to assimilated in the local language and culture. The native sentiments have been strengthened with the establishment of linguistic states in India and the rise of regionalism or sub-nationalism. Differences in appearance, language and life-styles have made for feasibility of friction. In some areas local militia have been set up to safeguard the interest of the local population. Shiva Sena in Bombay and Lachi Sena in Assam are cases in point. A similar situation exists in Assam where the Assamese are set up in arms against the Bengalees who have migrated there many years ago. In 1960 there were widespread, disturbances locally known as 'Bengali Kheda'. Another violent outburest took place in 1972 too. In 1967 a 'Marwari Kheda' was also organised in the city of Gauhati. During 1990-1991 disturbances took place for compelling non-Assamese to leave Assam. Also in Bihar Birsa Dal has raised the sloga of Chotanagpur for the Chotanagpuris.

The migration has various characteristics which may be considered functional or dysfunctional for the country. However, migration may be considered as a chief feature of modernising society and nation.

Questions

1. Discuss different kinds of migation and its causes ?

Lesson -14

CAUSES OF MIGRATION IN INDIAN SOCIETY

In a developing country like India where modernization of the society and economy is going on, especially after independence, it is expected that the speed of social change would also be fast. In such situation rate of migration is supposed to be rapid. When a person or group migrates once for the place of residence to the other place it is known as migration of single move. But usually migrants move from second to third or fourth place and begin residing there. Such migration is known as migration by stages. Besides, migration takes seasonal fluctiations. Thus its move becomes discontinuous. In fact, there are various causes of migration, sometimes particular set of

factors happens to be more effective but not always. Various demographers have grouped the various causes of migration into two : (1) Pull factors and (2) Push factors. Now let us discuss these factors one by one in brief.

(1) Pull Factors of Migration :

Pull factors are those which attract individuals or group to move to another place leaving their place of residence. In other words, for fulfilling their socio-economic and other needs people are encouraged to migrate to newer place from earlier place. So such migration is the outcome of pull factors. Amongst them following are the important pull factors of migration :

(i) Available of facilities for increasing income : The place where there is possibility of increasing their income people migrate there. For example, presence of various industries in south Bihar attract more people for higher living. Consequently migration takes place from other parts of Bihar and the country to this plain.

(ii) Adequate facilities for employment : For better living people enjoy to migrate. The place where there is much scope for employment attracts many people. So migration takes place. Because of such reason people migrate to the places where industrialization or urbanization has taken place. The purpose is for getting employment.

(iii) Availability of facilities for desired education, training and health : People is also attracted towards such places where such facilities are available. So people migrate there accordingly. Migration to such places also occurs in stages also.

(iv) Availability of desired environment and living conditions like healthy climate, better housing, educational institutions, communication facilities etc : Places having these facilities attract many people. From different places people migrate to such place considering their migration as useful and beneficial.

(v) Availability of various means of entertainment : There are people who migrate to the places where means of entertainment are adequately available.

(vi) Dependency : When one's parents migrate to a newer place all those who are dependent on them also migrate.

(vii) Affiliation to kins and friends : Sometime people migrate to such places where some of their kins or friends reside. It may be noticed evidently in case of transfer of those who are employed in government offices. Usually they prefer such places where they have some known persons, relatives or friends. If husband and wife are employed at two different places, then one of them either tries to migrate to the place of the life partner for living together.

(viii) Better urban living : It is a historical and also a present day fact that socio-economic development has usually been unequally distributed over geographical areas. In fact, urban areas have been in beneficial position as there are formal administration, role of formal and impersonal laws, money economy connected with wide marketing and banking, market oriented production, literacy, educational institutions, facilities for community welfare, standing police force and other

civic facilities. Availability of such provisions and facilities help in making urban living better. It attracts rural population which enjoy migration to urban centres.

(ix) Availability of suitable employment for educated, trained persons : For highly qualified and trained persons jobs are not available everywhere. So such persons migrate to the places where they feel or anticipate employment, as per their abilities. For example, an engineer is expected to get job in Bokaro, Jamsedpur or other industrial centres and so he may migrate to such places in search of suitable job. Similarly a rich and experienced businessman can do better at a big centre of business than in a small town or village.

(2) Push Factors of Migration :

Push factors are those which compel people to leave their place of residence and migrate to some other places. Such factors are indicative of such socio-economic conditions under whose pressure there is no alternative for people but to migrate. In other words, such migration takes place under the conditions of insecurity, helplessness or dependence. Push factors may be discussed one by one in brief in the following ways :

(i) Non-availability or inadequacy of suitable or beneficial means of employment : When people find it difficult to earn suitably at their place of residence or do not get proper job they have no alternative but to migrate to some other places.

(ii) Inadequate means of progress : When it is found that there is lack of proper avenues for progress people consider it wise to migrate to some places with hope.

(iii) Inadequate facilities for education, training, health care and housing : At the place of residence when people find that there is lack of such facilities for getting their children educated, or trained they are compelled to migrate. Absence of health care and housing facilities also put pressure to leave their place of residence. Several people have migrated Delhi from Bihar for providing better education to their children as proper educational facilities are not available in Bihar.

(iv) Discrimination on the basis of caste, religion or politics : People when face discrimination for their caste, religion or political affiliation of the place of residence intend to migrate to some other places for security and living. In December 1992 many non-Maharashtrian people had to migrate from Bombay as local politics was at work that Maharashtra was for Maharashtrian and not for others. Many of their houses were burnt or looted simply because of their religion. Thus the discrimination proves instrumental for migration.

(v) Prevalence or emergence of socio-religious conservatism, social hatred and boycott : Because of some reason or the other if there is feeling of hatred or boycott or such socio-religious conservatism that some people feel insecure at the place of their residences, then they migrate to other places for life and living. Non-Assamese had to face such situation more than once in Assam and that resulted in migration of many people from there although they had been living there for decades with their families.

(vi) **Insecurity because of local conditions** : Sometimes local conditions enhance the insecurity of the people and they find it better to leave their place of residence. For example, terrorism created by dacoits or police sometimes has led to migration.

Thus various causes of migration in Indian society have been discussed above. Besides, some scholars have analysed the causes under different conditions. They may also be discussed here in brief.

(1) Economic Factors :

Among the pull factors discussed by demographers economic factor is considered as most important one. For better living and happy life people usually migrate from their province or the country. For better and clear understanding economic factors can be discussed under the following subheadings.

(i) **Industrialization** : People are generally encouraged to migrate to such places where industrialization has taken place or is taking place. It is anticipated that ample job opportunities are available at such places for educated, skilled or unskilled individuals.

(ii) **Inadequate land holding** : Population growth in India is fast on increase. Consequently population pressure on land is intense. People find it non-beneficial to depend on land as there are several persons of the family who are dependent on the same land area for living. Thus such pressure on land encourages rural people to migrate to urban areas for employment.

(iii) **Increase in level of aspiration** : In India modernization has begun with due emphasis after independence and as one of its consequence people's level of aspiration has arisen. In search of living in the light of their higher level of aspiration people migrate from one place to another.

(iv) **Increase in transport and communication facilities** : After independence much progress has taken place in the field of transport and communication. Which encourage migration. Now migration has become easier as one can move from one place to the other place for living through roads or railways.

(2) Social Factors :

There are several customs, traditions and others which encourage migration. For example, after marriage a girl migrate to her father-in-law's house if her husband belongs to a joint family. If her husband live seperately, she is brought to her husband's place of residence. It has become a customary practice in today's India. For providing education or training to their children some people migrate to such urban centres where such facilities are adequately available. Besides, traditional values are also undergoing changes. Values related to individualism have started coming up rapidly in modern India. Under the influence of such values also many people have started migrating from villages.

(3) Geographical or natural factors :

Geographical factors encourage migration in some way or the other. People usually like to

live in healthy climate and migration takes place accordingly. People migrate because of earthquake, flood, and other natural calamities. Discovery of minerals and places of mining also encourage migration.

(4) Demographic factors :

Observations of various demographers indicates that migration takes place from more population pressure region to less population pressure region. Qualitative aspect of Indian population has also motivated the direction of migration. Accordingly skilled workers migrate to those areas where such workers are more required. For example, many nurses have migrated from Kerala to Bihar and other north Indian states.

(5) Cultural factors :

People of a sub-cultural region migrate usually to such places where atleast some persons of their sub-cultural region reside. It helps and encourages people to migrate there. However, this may not be considered as the only factor for migration. Generally it has been found, for example, that people of Bihar speaking Bhojpuri find easier to migrate to such places in India where Bhojpuri speaking people already reside. This factor of common mother tongue might have been the reason why Bhojpuri speaking persons are found in some other countries in good number. Religious practices also encourage migration. Many Hindu old people migrate to religious places to die there so that they might get 'liberation' (moksha).

(6) Political factors :

Criminalization of politics and terrorism have become a common political phenomenon. Because of terrorist activities people of border areas have started migrating from Punjab for safety of life and living. For political reasons particular areas is chosen for rapid development and then direction of migration is influenced accordingly. Criminalization of politics is sometimes demonstrated through caste or communal violence. It also influences migration.

Questions

1. Discuss the causes of migration w.s.r. to India ?
2. Give an account of the pull and push factors of migration.

Lesson -15

CONSEQUENCES OF MIGRATION IN RELATION TO INDIAN SOCIETY

Migration of population happens to be slow or fast and thereby demographic changes take place. There prospects of socio-economic and other changes are enlarged. There are many instances in world history when particular regions or nations started developing after migration.

Most developed nation of the world, U.S.A. in fact, is an outcome of migration of various ethnic groups from different countries. Effects of European culture may be noticed even today in many parts of the globe because of migration and settlement of Europeans there. It is usually said that Punjabis have migrated and settled in other parts of India and today Punjab is considered as one of the most developed states in India. In Bihar itself many people have migrated to south Bihar where several industries and other enterprises have been established. Consequently it is feared by many that there has arisen a crisis for the identity of tribal culture there. This is why it is viewed that consequences of migration are not only beneficial but harmful also. The consequences may be analysed from the following points of view for more scientific understanding :

- (i) Nature and characteristics of consequences in the region/place from where people migrate.
- (ii) The consequences of migration where people migrate or consequences at the receiving end of the migrants; and
- (iii) The consequences of migration on the migrants themselves, what they gain and what they lose.

Literature on these consequence, in social sciences is scanty. Broadly the consequences are classified into two, viz. good consequences and bad consequences of migration. Now let us discuss them one by one in brief.

(i) Good consequences of migration—demographic changes : Qualitative and quantitative changes take place in the population at the place of origin and at the receiving end of the migrants. The consequences of out migration on the place of origin may be (a) better economic standard of living with the facilities of buying land, cattle, house construction, opening of shops etc. (b) enhanced status manifestation through the acquisition of movable and immovable assets (c) introducing innovations of ideas and practices in villages. At the receiving end of the migrants the consequences depend on whether (a) immigrants have higher or lower status than the local population, (b) their duration of stay and (c) the nature of their relationship with the local population. In other words, migration leads to demographic changes in the population of the place or region where the migrants settle. To several demographers migration serves as a mechanism of labour force adjustment and equilibrium among different regions.

(ii) Possibility of equality in economic opportunities : Sometimes it happens that there are some places or regions in India where there is ample scope for jobs but needed working force is not available there. And there may be places where there are many job seekers but jobs are not available there. In such situation the population and economic progress of both the places are badly affected. Through migration economic opportunities are equalised and efforts are also made for economic development of both the places. In other words, migration siphons off surplus labour from areas of stationary or declining economic opportunities and transfer mobile elements of the population to the areas of economic expansion.

(iii) Possibility of getting urban facilities : Usually in developing countries like India

migration takes place from rural areas to urban areas. There is every possibility for the migrants to enjoy the benefits of urban facilities. No doubt, civic facilities and others are found more in towns and cities. For example, the migrants are in a position to provide better education to their children and utilise health or medical care facilities.

(iv) Decrease in pressure of rural population on land : Because of density, poverty and other socio-economic reasons people usually migrate from rural to urban areas. As is well known larger section of rural population in India depend on land. So pressure on land decreases after such migration. Saving potential is enhanced in rural areas, such view has also been expressed by Ragner Nurkse.

(v) Possibility of emotional integration : Migrants come in contact with local population. They influence and are influence by local culture. They also try to adjust with local people and their ways of life. Migration, being a right of every Indian, can migrate to any part of the country. This provides an opportunity for developing the feeling of being Indian. In other words, possibility of emergence of emotional integration increases with migration.

(vi) Emergence of social integration : Through migration two unknown groups of population come into contact and acquaint each other with socio-religious norms and values, customs, mores and traditions. They interact with each other reducing intersectional and inter-regional differences and it is particularly highlighted on socio-religious occasions. There is found emergence or strengthening of social integration.

(vii) Possibility of cultural diffusion : Migration provides a suitable chance for the emergence of cultural diffusion. It has been viewed by several scholars that culture growth in different parts of the world has been possible through cultural diffusion, after migration. As said elsewhere rural people migrate more to urban areas in India. So rural migrants come in contact with urban culture and such culture is diffused to rural areas when they visit their villages, the place of origin. That provides an opportunity for rural culture growth.

(viii) Possibility of rural development and change : It is not only the individual or family which gains from migration, its also the village in India which stands to benefit from it. Migrants bring money for the village. They also introduce benefits of their experiences and skills and create enormous potential for economic development and socio-political changes in their village. For example, more migration has taken place from Punjab, even outside the country and yet Punjab has been considered as one of the most developed Indian states where the green revolution got success.

Besides migrants with different socio-economic background have become instrumental also for social change of various kinds and degree at the place of their new residence, where they migrate and settle.

Bad consequences of Migration :

(i) Increase in the density of urban population and other problems : Because of more rural migration the density of urban population in India goes on increasing. In metropolitan cities

like Calcuta, Delhi and others many people migrate there almost daily but correspondingly civic and other urban facilities are not increased. Consequently, quality of urban living is badly affected. One can easily notice in most of the towns and cities in India the problems related to housing, health and sanitation, employment, transport, law and order or administration and others. These problems are multiplied with the extent of migration, in a way. Density of population has become so intense and alarming in several cities that theft, crime and other anti-social activities have become common and recognised urban phenomena.

(ii) Negative consequence on inter-personal and kinship relations : If a migrant does not return home, the place of origin for quite sometime or does not visit often, he loses his interest in the village and is lost to the village for all practical purposes. In other words, his inter-personal relationship with the villagers, relatives, kins and other is badly affected. Besides, such problems of inter-personal nature arise at the place of the migrant's residence. There one has to establish interpersonal relationship with the local population which may have different life-style and culture. If the local population has become hostile to the migrants, then such problem is more intensified and that affect their personalities negatively.

(iii) Emergence of the problems related to adjustment : People migrate usually for fulfilment of some specific needs like economic ones. They try for that, for the purpose migrants have to interact with many people and groups of the local population and thus their areas of adjustment are increased and so are the related problems. Problems related to their adjustment become more complex, serious and risky when the local population or a part of it is not sympathetic or are hostile towards them. They find it more difficult to adjust when they intend to maintain or safeguard their cultural identity in a different culture zones of their settlement. Consequently, personalities and living of the migrants and their family members are badly affected.

(iv) Emergence of Mental Discontentment : Migrants leave their place of origin, say village, with certain level of aspiration to be fulfilled, say getting a job of certain quality or certain level of income and settle in new places, mostly in urban areas or centres. India population is fast on increase. Many people wander place to place in search of living. Migrants density is more intense in many big urban or industrial centres but they fail to provide jobs or living for increasing migrants or fail to fulfil the aspiration level of the migrants. Beside, they reside at a long distance from their villages, cut off from family and kins' relations and on the other hand they have not been able to develop proper or normal social relationship with the local population being new and outsider. All these lead to the emergence of mental discontent among migrants. With such mental make up their health and personality are badly affected. It has been researched by several scholars like David M. Heer with the conclusion that migrants have a higher rate of mental disease than non-migrants in the place of destination, where migrants reside.

(v) Emergence of Class Distinction : Sharpening of cultural identity is found usually in modern India between migrants and the local population. In due course of time the migrants bring family members, kins and others to their place of residence, also for living. They try to improve their economic condition and consequently there is emergence of such class distinction which

might be different to many of the local population. Even among the migrants class distinction may be noticed, those who happen to be top achievers and those who belong to working class. In Indian society caste play an important role. Similarly, caste affiliation and its hierarchical position of the migrants and the members of the local population sharpen class distinction causing socio-psychological distance between them.

Such distinction is found at the place of origin— villages— also. The migrants with the level of achievement acquires assets in their villages and enhance their economic and social status, quite different and lower than many village residents, also of their caste. Thus there emerges class distinction, broadly between migrants and non-migrant villagers leading to disequilibrium in their behaviour which proves harmful for the village.

(vi) Psychological threat : Migrants may also pose a psychological threat since their very success may imply shortcomings in the character of the local people. It is generally believed that the outsider is more successful because he possesses qualities and skills not generally possessed by the local people. With the improving socio-economic condition of the migrants may cause dissatisfaction and discontentment among the local resident and then their behaviour may be hostile towards the migrants. For example, it may be noticed in South Bihar. There the local people—Tribals— are becoming poor day by day while the emigrants go on improving their socio-economic status. Such situation has caused a psychological threat to the tribals who have almost become hostile to 'DIKU'— the alien.

(vii) Political Threat : Large group of immigrants may pose a political threat to the local population. Since they are wealthy and numerous, they may become politically influential in democratic India. For example, tribals in Tripura have become a minority on account of large scale immigration of Bengali population from Bangladesh. In Jharkhand itself, the proportion of tribal people in Ranchi district tends to fall in every census and may after a decade be a tribal minority district.

(viii) Emergence of tension and conflict of various qualities : Migrant's economic progress, attempt for cultural identity, political activities and others have not accepted as good signs by the local people in different parts of India. And tensions between them and the immigrants are demonstrated in various new forms, sometimes leading to violent conflicts. If the immigrants are a group belonging to status higher than the local population, there is competitive tension and turmoil which may lead to accommodation and adjustment in course of time. Lower status immigrants after progress may not be taken as friendly.

Regionalism, provincialism, individualism, casteism, communalism, and other conservative thinking and consideration have sharpen tension and conflict between immigrants and the local people. In modern India usually the local population does not welcome migrants from another cultural area. The nativist sentiments have been strengthened with the establishment of linguistic states and rise of regionalism or sub-nationalism. In some parts of the country local militia have been set up to safeguard the interests of the local population like Shiva-Sena in Bombay,

Lachi-Sena in Assam etc. In 1960 there were widespread disturbances against Bengalees, locally known as 'Bengali Kheda'. In 1967 a Marwari Bazar of Gauhati was set on fire and looted by bands of young men who were committed to object the non-Assamese from Assam. It was called 'Marwari Kheda'. Such violent performances were repeated in 1980s also.

Urban nativism has largely been promoted by middle class and educated youth being anxious to see that their employment opportunities are not diminished by the arrivals of migrants from another regions.

Thus, the above brief considerations indicate that consequences of migration are not unidirectional. For convenience of understanding some are good while some others are bad and that to through particular angle of vision.

Question

1. Discuss the possitive and negative consequences of migration in India.

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Thus, the above brief considerations indicate that consequences of migration are not only educational. For convenience of understanding some are good while some others are bad and that to through particular angle of vision.

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1. Discuss the positive and negative consequences of migration in India.