

CHAPTER - 13

POPULATION OF INDIA

In this chapter, you learn about the following:

- *Importance of population.*
- *Growth of population, size and distribution.*
- *Density of population and density zones.*
- *Migration, causes for migration and types of migration.*
- *Problems of migration and measures to control.*

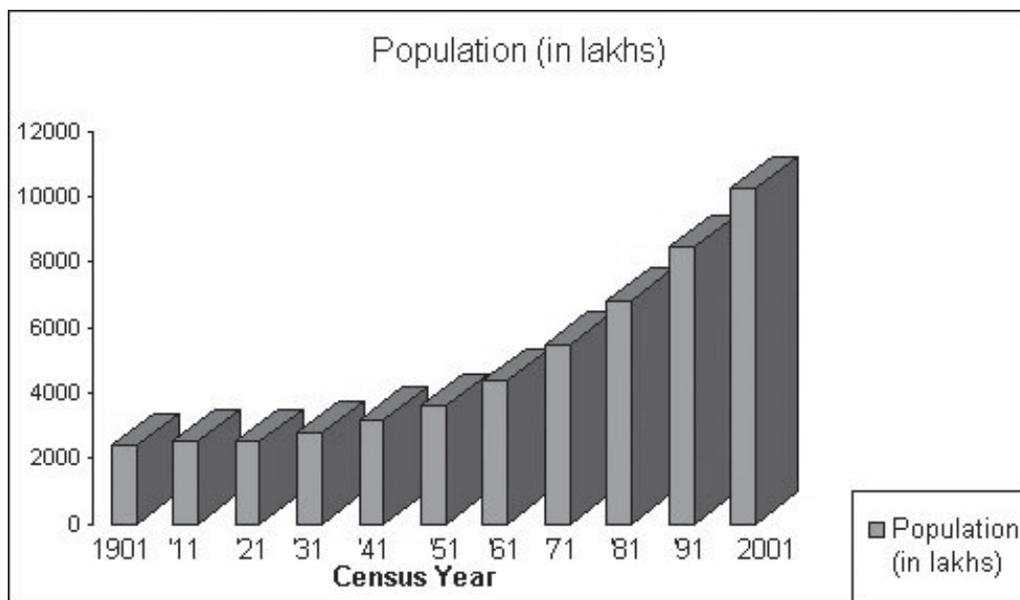
The total number of people living in a place during a specific period is called the population of that place. The collection and analysis of facts and figures related to human population is called Census. In India, since the year 1872, census has been conducted regularly for every 10 years.

India has vast human resource. According to the Census of 2011, India's population is 1210 million (121 crores). After China, India is the most populous country in the world. In addition to the population being more in size, the growth of population is also very high. Hence, besides being a resource, population has become big problem.

Population Growth:

When we consider the facts and figures related to population, the main feature is over growth of population. Today the population as per 2011 is 121 crores. But during the 1981-2011, a slight decreases in the growth rate.

During the period from 1901 to 1911, the population growth rate was very less and during the period 1911-1921 it was negative, i.e., 0.31%. During this period, a lot of people died due to epidemics like plague and cholera. Hence there was a decrease in population. After 1971 census increases of 24.80%. It was the period of maximum growth of population. In 2001 it was 21.54% and further decreased during to 17.64% in 2011. That means in the last decade, it came down by 3.90%.



Bimaru States: Bihar, Madhya Pradesh, Rajasthan and Uttar Pradesh are called **Bimaru** States. It means states suffering from a number of ailments. Even today they have the maximum growth of population.

Population Distribution and Density:

Diversity in the distribution of population in India. Its distribution varies from place to place. The Ganga plain is the centre part of India. It has the highest population. The states on either side, Rajasthan in the west and North-eastern states in the east, have less population. The distribution in South India shows Kerala state as having the highest density of population and the peninsular plateau has the lowest density. The coastal states on either side have the highest density of population. Uttar Pradesh has the highest population and Sikkim is the least.

Do you know this?

The eight states- Rajasthan, Uttar Pradesh, Uttarakhand, Bihar, Jharkhand, Madhya Pradesh, Chattisgarh and Orissa are called 'Empowered Action Group' (EAG). The reason is that their development determines the development of the nation. The rest of the states are called Non-EAG states.

Factors influencing the distribution of population:

The distribution of population in India is influenced by various geographical, economic, political and social factors. This is the reason for differences from region to region. In addition,

distribution of rain, temperature, soil, irrigation, minerals, power resources, industrial development, transport facilities, trade and commerce, defence etc. These factors influenced in the inequality in population distribution. Areas having more Residential it has highest density of population. On the otherside large ara have low density of population, beause no facility. Even now many areas in India have a low density due to these reasons.

Factors identified the reason of low density.

1. Floods 2. Earthquakes 3. Deserk regions 4. Cyclones 5. Other Naiton hazards.

Density: To describe distribution of population the word 'density' is used. The total population of a area divided by its total area gives density. Usually it is described as number of people per square kilometer.

India has highest population inspite of this distribution also unequal. Some areas are very highest density. Today also some other areas are having lowest density.

Charactristics of Density:

We can see many differences in the density of population in India. There is a steady increase in the density from one census to the other. In the year 1901, it was 77, it was 267 in 1991, 324 in 2001 and 382 in 2011. Bihar state has highest density of population in the country.

Zones :

Based on the density of population the country is divided into 3 zones: 1.Highest density zone 2. Moderate density zone and 3.Lowest density zone.

1. Highest Density zone:

These areas have more than 500 people per square km. They are Bihar (1102), West Bengal (1029), Kerala (859), Uttar Pradesh (828), Haryana (573), Tamil Nadu (555) and Punjab (550).

Do you know this?

Features of 2011 Census of India

1. Total population in India	1210 million (121 crores)
2. Average Density	382/sq.km.
3. The state of Highest Density	Bihar - 1102/sq.km.
4. The state of Lowest Density	Arunachal Pradesh - 17 sq.km.
5. The state of Highest Growth Rate	Meghalaya - 27.82 %
6. Average Literacy	74.04 %
7. The state of Maximum Literacy	Kerala - 93.91 %
8. The state of Minimum Literacy	Bihar - 63.82
9. The state of Highest population	UttarPradesh - 199.5 million
10. The state of Lowest population	Sikkim - 6.07 lakhs
11. Highest populated union Territory	Delhi -16.07 million
12. Lowest populated union Territory	Lakshadweep - 60,000
13. Average Deth rate	6.8 per 1000
14. Average Birth rate	22.65 per 1000
15. Average sex ratio	940 female per 1000 males
16. Highest sex ratio	Kerala 1084 women/ 1000 men
17. Lowest sex ratio	Haryana 877 women/1000 men

2. Zone of Moderate Density of Population:

These areas have 251 to 500 people per square km. They are Assam (397), Gujarat (308), Goa (394), Maharashtra (365), Karnataka (319), Jharkhand (414), Andhra Pradesh (308), Orissa (269) and Tripura (350).

3. Zone of Low Density of Population:

These areas have less than 250 people per square km. They are Chattisgarh (189), Madhya Pradesh (236), Uttarkhand (189), Rajasthan (201), Himachal Pradesh (123), Manipur (122), Meghalaya (132), Jammu and Kashmir (124), Nagaland (119), Sikkim (86), Mizoram (52), Andaman Nicobar islands (46) and Arunachal Pradesh (17).

Effects of Growth in Population:

Human resource is necessary for economic development. But its rate should be in harmony with the available natural resources.

Already, India has a very high population. Hence, instead being a resource, it has become a major problem. Population explosion has a harmful effect on economic development. Rapid growth of population has posed a lot of serious problems. Most important among them are unemployment, shortage of food, lack of nutrition, pressure on civic and social amenities, low per capita income, slow rate of economic development, political unrest, social problems. In this way, increase in population is the main reason for many problems being faced by the country.

Measures to control of growth of population:

To prevent the rapid growth of population, the Indian government has formulated many policies and implemented them. Important among them are family planning, women welfare projects, prevention of infant mortality, field plans, publicity and advertisement, family planning camps, creating awareness among the rural population etc.

Migration:

Shifting of residential place from one place to another is called Migration. A migrant means one who has shifted from his birthplace and settled in another place. There are many reasons of migration.

Causes for migration:

Of the people who have migrated from one place to another, approximately 50% do it for the purpose of marriage. Other reasons for migration are: better employment opportunities, trade, good life style, social security, health etc. These are classified social political and economic casases.

Types of migration:

There are mainly two types of migration: International and Internal (Domestic)

1. **International Migration:** Shifting from one nation to another is called International Migration.
2. Shifting from one place to another within the country is called **Internal Migration**. This is divided into four types:
 1. Rural to Rural migration
 2. Rural to Urban
 3. Urban to rural
 4. Urban to urban migration.

Problems due to migration:

There are many types of problems due to migration:

- When the rural population migrates to cities in search of jobs, due to lack of residing places those people are forced to live in slums.
- Migration leads to immoral and other activities.
- Pressure mounts on the basic amenities like water, electricity, roads, education etc.
- The density population are increases in the places of migrated regions.
- It affects the employment it causes like robbery, dacoity, murder and other criminal activities.
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Measures to control migration:

To prevent problems due to migration of rural population, many steps have been taken:

- Establishing industrial areas outside the city limits, thereby encouraging the workers to stay in satellite towns.
- Expanding and providing facilities available in cities like good roads, drinking water, sanitary facility, library, educational institutions for villages and small towns. This is called 'PURA' project. By these methods, migration of rural population can be checked.
- Improving transportation facilities between cities and surrounding rural areas.
- Establishing satellite towns just outside city limits.

Activity:

Collect data about people migrating to your place or out of your place and discuss the reasons for their doing so.

EXERCISES

I Fill in the blanks with suitable words:

1. The word _____ is used to describe the distribution of population.
2. Total population of India as per 2011 census is _____.
3. India's average density of population is _____ per square km.
4. _____ is the state having the highest population.
5. _____ is the state has the lowest population.
6. _____ is the state of highest density of population.

II Answer the following after discussing them in groups:

1. What is meant by 'population'?
2. What is meant by 'Density of Population'?
3. What is 'Migration'?
4. What are the types of migration?
5. What are the factors influencing on distribution of population?
6. Write are the problems of migration?
7. What are the effects of population growth?
8. What are the problems of migration? and what are the measures to control of migration.

III Activities:

1. Mark the density of population in different places on the Indian map.
2. Collect the information of migration in your place and discuss the reason.

IV Project Work:

1. Collect details about the population of your district and write a short note on that.

