

CBSE Class-12 Sociology Test Paper-05
Demographic structure of Indian society

General Instruction:

- Question 1-5 carries two marks each.
 - Question 6-8 carries four marks each.
 - Question 9-10 carries six marks each.
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1. What is 'Total Fertility Rate'?
2. Give reasons why sex ratio has been historically in favour of females.
3. Why is rising dependency ratio a cause of worry in countries that are facing an ageing population?
4. How is literacy as prerequisite to education?
5. Why is population dynamics considered to be a matter of importance?
6. Describe the regional pattern for the child sex ratio in India.
7. How are mass media and communication channels bringing images of urban life style to rural society?
8. Describe about the size and growth of India's population.
9. Describe about the population policy of India.
10. Why did the Family Planning Programme suffered a setback?

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1. The total fertility rate refers to the 'the average number of births to a cohort of women up to the end of the reproductive age period that is estimated on the basis of the age-specific rates observed during a given period.
2. The sex ratio has been historically in favour females due to two reasons. First, girl babies appear to have an advantage over boy babies in terms of resistance to disease in infancy. Secondly, at the other end of the life cycle, women have tended to outlive men in most societies, so that there are more of older women than men.
3. A rising dependency ratio is a cause for worry in countries that are facing an ageing population, since it becomes difficult for a relatively smaller proportion of working-age people to carry the burden of providing for a relatively larger proportion of dependents.
4. Literacy as a prerequisite to education is an instrument of empowerment. The more literate the population the greater the consciousness of career options, as well as participation in the knowledge economy. Literacy can lead to health awareness and fuller participation in the cultural and economic wellbeing of the community.
5. The population dynamics is an important matter as it crucially affects the developmental prospects of a nation as well as the health and wellbeing of its people. This is particularly true of developing countries that have to face special challenges in this regard.
6. The following are the regional pattern of the child sex ratio in India:
 - i. The state-level child sex ratios offer even greater cause for worry. As many as six states and union territories have a child sex ratio of under 900 females per 1000 males.
 - ii. Punjab is the worst off with an incredibly low child sex ratio of 793 (the only state below 800), followed by Haryana, Chandigarh, Delhi, Gujarat and Himachal Pradesh.
 - iii. Uttaranchal, Rajasthan, Uttar Pradesh and Maharashtra are all under 925.
 - iv. Madhya Pradesh, Goa, Jammu and Kashmir, Bihar, Tamil Nadu, Karnataka and Orissa are above the national average of 927 but below the 950 mark.
 - v. Even Kerala, the state with the best overall sex ratio does not do too well at 963, while the highest child sex ratio of 986 is found in Sikkim.
7. Mass media and communication channels are now bringing images of urban life styles and patterns of consumption into the rural areas. Consequently, urban norms and

standards are becoming well known even in the remote villages, creating new desires and aspirations for consumption. Mass transit and mass communication are bridging the gap between the rural and urban areas. Even in the past, the rural areas were never really beyond the reach of market forces and today they are being more closely integrated into the consumer market.

8. India is the second most populous country in the world after China, with a total population of 1.21 billion according to the provisional data of Census of India 2011.
 - i. The growth rate of India's population has not always been very high. During 1901–1951 the average annual growth rate did not exceed 1.33%. It in fact had a negative growth rate of -0.03% during 1911 to 1921 due to the influenza epidemic during 1918–19 that killed several people.
 - ii. The growth rate of population substantially increased after independence and was up to 2.2% during 1961-1981. Although the annual growth rate has decreased it remains one of the highest in the developing world.
 - iii. Before 1931, both death rates and birth rates were high, whereas, after this transitional moment the death rates fell sharply but the birth rate only fell slightly.
 - iv. The relative contribution to population growth from different regional groupings of states varies due to a very wide variation in the fertility rates across the states of India. Some states like Kerala and Tamil Nadu have managed to bring down their total fertility rates (TFR) whereas states like Bihar, Madhya Pradesh, Rajasthan and Uttar Pradesh still have very high TFR.
9. India has had an official population policy for more than a half century.
 - i. In fact, India was perhaps the first country to explicitly announce such a policy in 1952.
 - ii. The population policy took the concrete form of the National Family Planning Programme.
 - iii. The broad objectives of this programme have remained the same – to try to influence the rate and pattern of population growth in socially desirable directions.
 - iv. In the early days, the most important objective was to slow down the rate of population growth through the promotion of various birth control methods, improve public health standards, and increase public awareness about population and health issues.
 - v. Over the past half-century or so, India has many significant achievements to her

credit in the field of population.

10. The Family Planning Programme suffered a setback during the years of the National Emergency (1975-76).
 - i. Normal parliamentary and legal procedures were suspended during this time and special laws and ordinances issued directly by the government (without being passed by Parliament) were in force.
 - ii. During this time the government tried to intensify the effort to bring down the growth rate of population by introducing a coercive programme of mass sterilisation.
 - iii. Sterilisation refers to medical procedures like vasectomy (for men) and tubectomy (for women) which prevent conception and childbirth.
 - iv. Vast numbers of mostly poor and powerless people were forcibly sterilised and there was massive pressure on lower level government officials (like school teachers or office workers) to bring people for sterilisation in the camps that were organised for this purpose.
 - v. There was widespread popular opposition to this programme, and the new government elected after the Emergency abandoned it.