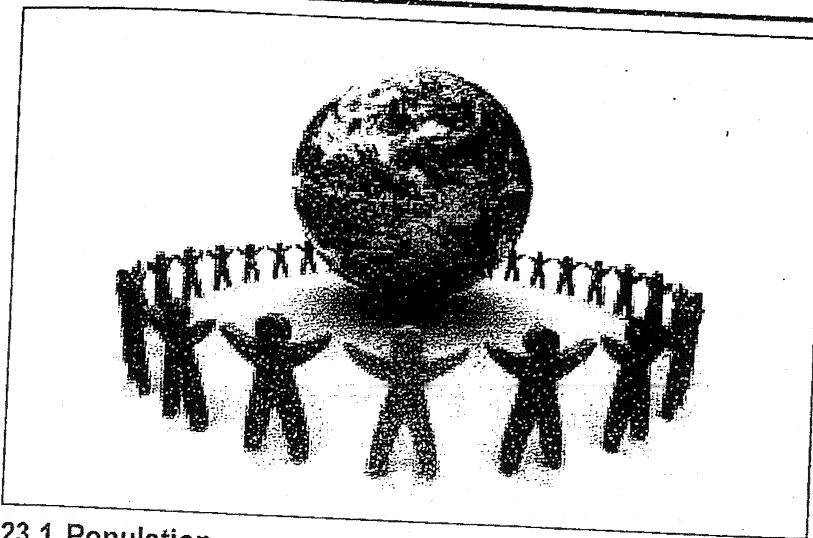


# Population



*"The people are important to develop the economy and society. The people make and use resources and are themselves resources with varying quality. Hence, population is the pivotal element in social studies. It is the point of reference from which all other elements are observed and from which they derive significance and meaning."*

## 23.1 Population


- Population is the total number of people living in a country at a given point of time.
- The significance of studying population lies mainly in estimating the total manpower available for production and the total amount of goods and services required for their consumption.

## 23.2 Importance of studying population

- The people make and use resources and are themselves resources with varying quality.
- Population is the point of reference from which all other elements are observed and from which they derive significance and meaning.
- 'Resources', 'calamities' and 'disaster' are all meaningful only in relation to human beings. Their numbers, distribution, growth and characteristics or qualities provide the basic background for understanding and appreciating all aspects of the environment.
- Human beings are producers and consumers of the earth's resources. Therefore, it is important to know how many people are there in a country, where do they live how and why their numbers are increasing and what are their characteristics.

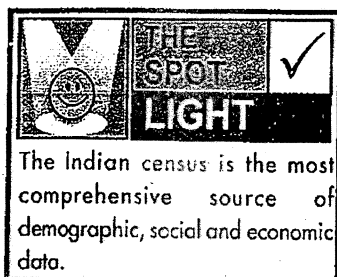
## 23.3 Population size and distribution

- India's population as on march 2001 stood at 1,028 million, which is 16.7% of the world's population.
- Area of India 3.28 million sq. km., which is 2.4 % of the world's area.
- U.P. is the most populous state of India with a population size of 166 million
- The population density of India is 324 persons per sq. km.
- J & K, Arunachal Pradesh and Mizoram are the states with density below 100 persons per sq. km. Rugged terrain and unfavourable climatic conditions are primarily responsible for sparse population in these areas. Arunachal Pradesh has lowest density of population with 13 persons per sq. km.



**THE SPOTLIGHT LIGHT**

A census is an official enumeration of population done periodically. In India the first census was held in the year 1872. The first complete census, however taken in the year 1881. Since then censuses have been held regularly every tenth year.



- Assam, Jharkhand, Punjab, Haryana, Gujrat, Maharashtra, Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka and Tamil Nadu have moderate population densities. Hilly dissected and rocky nature of terrain, moderate to low rainfall, shallow and less fertile soils have influenced population densities in these areas.
- U.P., Bihar, West Bengal and Kerala have high to very high population densities because of the flat plains with fertile soil and abundant rainfall.

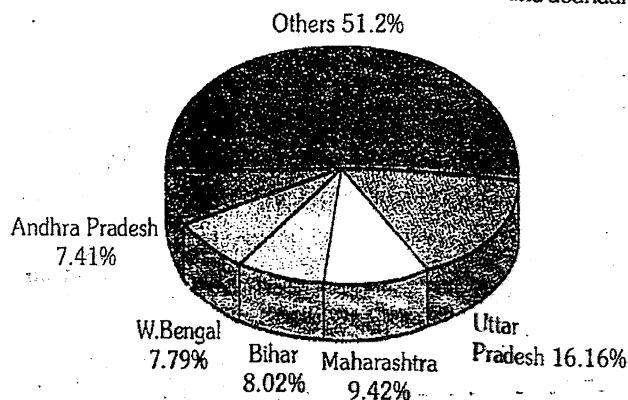


Fig. 1 Distribution of Population

- (a) **Population growth** : It is the Change in number of inhabitants of a country during a specific period of time. Annual growth rate of India is 1.93%. There are 3 factors, which determine the population change-the birth rate, the death rate and migration.

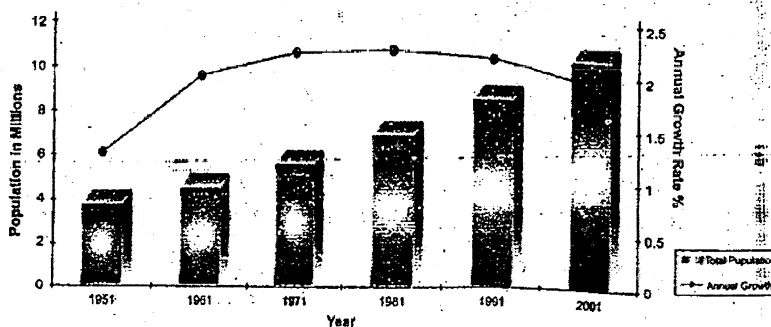
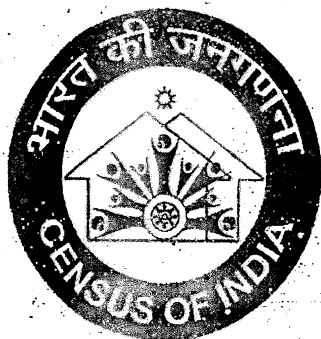


Fig. 2 India's Population and Population Growth Rates during 1951-2001

- (b) **Birth rate** : Is the number of live births per thousand persons in a year.
- (c) **Death Rate** : Is the number of deaths per thousand persons in a year. There has been a rapid decline in the death rate because of the success in controlling epidemics like Plague, small pox etc. This was possible because of increasing public health measures and advancement in medical technology.
- (d) **Migration** : It is the movement of people across regions and territories. It plays an important role in changing the composition and distribution of population. Migration can be Internal (within the country) or International (between the countries)

- Internal Migration does not change the size of the population, but influences the distribution of population within the nation. In India, most migrations have been from rural to urban areas because of adverse conditions of poverty and unemployment in the rural areas and increased employment opportunities and better living conditions in cities.



2011

Fig.3

- (e) **Age composition** : It refers to the number of people in different age groups in a country.
- (i) **Children - below 15 yrs - 34.4%** : They are economically unproductive and need to be provided with food, clothing education and medical care. Children constitute 34.4% of Indian population.
- (ii) **Working age - (15 - 59 yrs) - 58.7%** : They are economically productive and biologically reproductive. They comprise the working population. They constitute 58.7% of Indian population.
- (ii) **Aged (Above 59 yrs) - 6.9%** : They can be economically productive though they may have retired. They may be working voluntarily but they are not available for employment through recruitment. Their proportion is 6.9%.

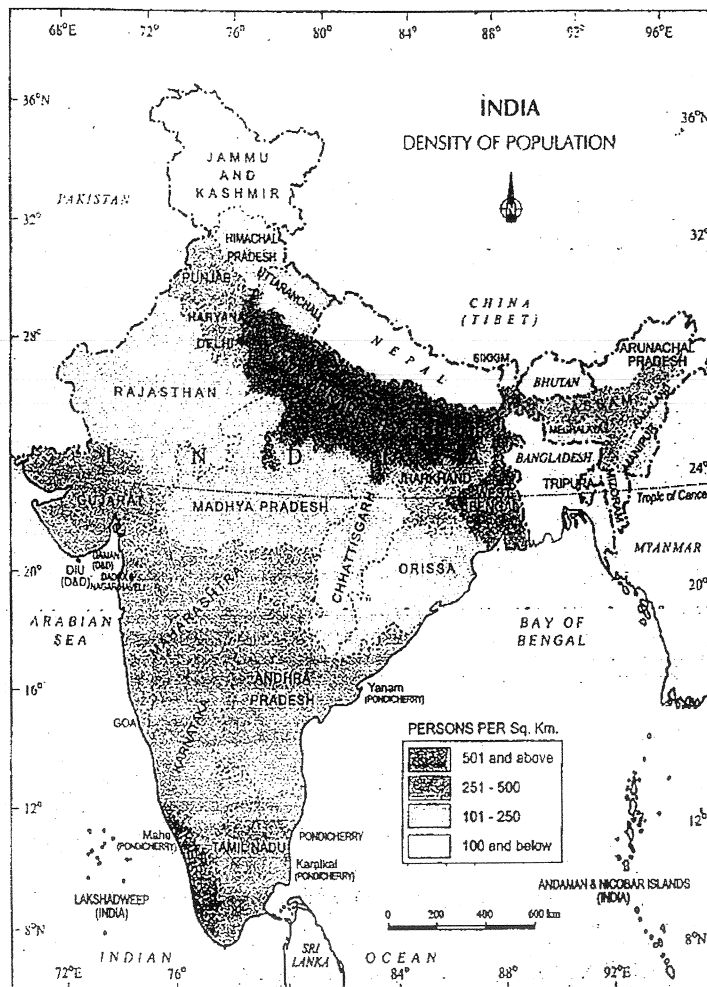
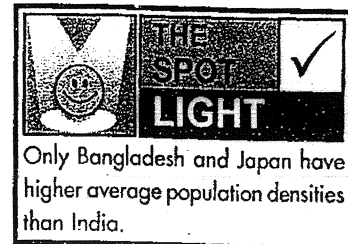


Fig. 4 Density of Population in India

| Census year | Sex ratio<br>(Females per 1000 males) |
|-------------|---------------------------------------|
| 1951        | 946                                   |
| 1961        | 941                                   |
| 1971        | 930                                   |
| 1981        | 934                                   |
| 1991        | 929                                   |
| 2001        | 933                                   |
| 2011        | 943                                   |

Table : India : Sex Ratio 1951-2011



India : Age Structure

■ Adults, 58.7%  
 ■ Aged, 6.9%  
 □ Children, 34.4%

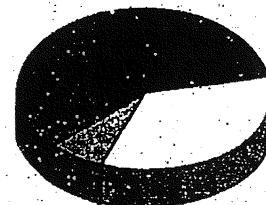


Fig. 5 India, Age Composition



Kerala has a sex ratio of 1058 females per 1000 males. Pondicherry has 1001 females for every 1000 males, while Delhi has only 821 females per 1000 males and Haryana has just 816.



Fig.6 Declining sex ratio in India.

- (f) **Sex ratio** : Is defined as number of females per 1000 males in the population. According to census 2001, there are 933 females per 1000 males

Reasons for unfavourable sex ratio in India —

- Low social, economic and political status of women.
- Dowry system is also responsible for this.
- Parents also feel insecure if a girl child is born.

- (g) **Literacy rates** : A person aged 7 yrs and above who can read and write understanding by in any language is treated as literate.

Literacy rate in India - 64.84%

Males - 75.26% , Females - 53.67%

- (h) **Occupational structure** : The distribution of the population according to different types of occupation is referred to as the occupational structure. Occupations are classified as Primary, Secondary and tertiary.

- (i) **Primary activities** : Include agriculture, animal husbandry, fishing, forestry, mining and quarrying etc. They are primary because, here production is carried on with the help of nature

- (ii) **Secondary activities** : When primary goods are used to produce finished goods by manual labour or machines, then such an activity is known as the secondary activity. Making furniture from wood, bread from wheat, machines from metals, cloth from cotton etc are all secondary activities.

- (iii) **Tertiary activities** : All such activities that deal with services like teaching, banking, medical practice, transport, etc.

- India 64% of population is engaged in Primary activity
- 3% in secondary and 20% in Tertiary activity
- There had been an occupational shift in favour of secondary and tertiary sector because of growing industrialization and urbanization in recent times.

- (i) **Health** : The role of health in human development is quite important. Health involves the physical, mental, economic, social well-being of an individual. Health covers a wide range of activities including family welfare, population control, drug control, immunization and prevention of food adulteration etc.

Life expectancy has increased from 36.7 years in 1951 to 64.6 yrs in 2001 because of improvement in public health, prevention of infectious diseases and application of modern medical practices in diagnosis and treatment of ailment.

### 23.4 National Population Policy - N.P.P. 2000 aims at

- Imparting free and compulsory school education upto 14 yrs of age
- Reducing infant mortality rate to below 30 per 1000 live births
- Achieving universal immunization of children against all vaccine preventable diseases.
- Promoting delayed marriage for girls.
- Making family welfare a people centered programme.

#### NPP 2000 and Adolescents

- Besides nutritional requirements, the policy put emphasis on needs of adolescents including protection from unwanted pregnancies and sexually transmitted diseases.
- Providing food supplements, nutritional services, strengthening legal measures to prevent child marriage.



Fig.7 Secondary sector

#### CHECK YOUR LEARNING 23.1

##### Across

- This rate has reduced drastically in recent years due to better health care (5).
- This policy was formulated in the year 2000. (3)

##### Down

- This aspect of population tells us how many people are located where (12).
- This state has lowest sex ratio. (7)

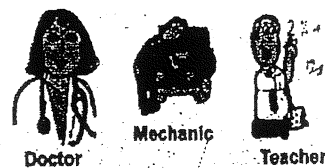
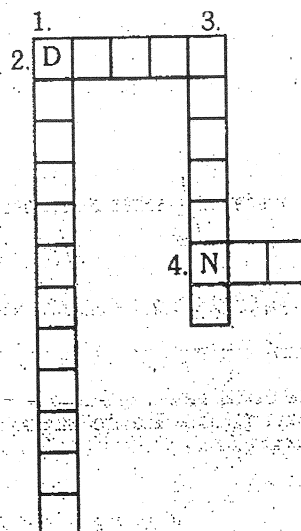


Fig.8 Tertiary sector

## EXERCISE # 1

## FORMATIVE ASSESSMENT

### Multiple choice questions

1. Which among the following are resources creating factors as well as resources themselves?  
(1) animals (2) plants  
(3) human beings (4) nature
2. In which of the following instances does a natural event like a flood or tsunami become a disaster?  
(1) only when they affect a crowded village or town  
(2) when the natural events are of great intensity  
(3) when they happen in the environment  
(4) when they affect large inhabited areas
3. The numbers, distributions, growth and characteristics of which of the following provide the basic background for understanding and appreciating all aspects of the environment.  
(1) natural resource (2) population  
(3) flora (4) fauna
4. Why is it important to know how many are there in a country, where do they live, how and why their numbers are increasing and what are their characteristics?  
(1) population is the pivotal element in social studies  
(2) to exploit the natural resources of the country  
(3) human beings are producers and consumers of a resources  
(4) none of the above
5. From which of the following do we get information regarding the population of our country?  
(1) Textbook  
(2) Survey of India  
(3) Census  
(4) Geological Survey of India
6. Which is a major concern of study about the population of a country?  
(1) population size and distribution  
(2) population growth and processes of population change  
(3) characteristics or qualities of the population  
(4) none of the above
7. India accounts for what percentage of the world population?  
(1) 1.02 % (2) 2.4%  
(3) 3.28% (4) 16.7%
8. Which is the most populated state of India?  
(1) Maharastra (2) Uttar Pradesh  
(3) Madhya Pradesh (4) Rajasthan
9. Which state has the lowest population?  
(1) UP (2) Himachal Pradesh  
(3) Goa (4) Sikkim
10. Which one of the following union territories of India has a very low population?  
(1) Andaman and Nicobar  
(2) Lakshdweep  
(3) Chandigarh  
(4) Pondicherry
11. Almost half of India's population lives in just five states. Which one of the following is not one of these five populous states?  
(1) Maharashtra (2) Bihar  
(3) West Bengal (4) Arunachal Pradesh
12. What percentage of India's population resides in the most populated state of India, Uttar Pradesh?  
(1) 31.2% (2) 16.16%  
(3) 9.42% (4) 7.41%
13. What percentage of India's population lives in rajasthan?  
(1) 16% (2) 8% (3) 7% (4) 5%
14. The average number of persons per unit area, such as square kilometer, is termed as  
(1) population distribution  
(2) population density  
(3) absolute population  
(4) population growth
15. Which one of the following countries has higher population density than India?  
(1) China (2) Bangladesh  
(3) Canada (4) Korea
16. Which of the following figures shows the population density of India?  
(1) 1028 million persons per sq. km.  
(2) 3.28 million persons per sq. km.  
(3) 324 persons per sq. km.  
(4) 13 persons per sq. km.

17. Which one of the following states has very high population density?  
 (1) West Bengal (2) Madhya Pradesh  
 (3) Rajasthan (4) Arunachal Pradesh
18. Which of the following states of India has very low population density?  
 (1) Arunachal Pradesh (2) Sikkim  
 (3) Orissa (4) Bihar
19. Which of the following states of India has a moderate population density?  
 (1) Jammu and Kashmir (2) Rajasthan  
 (3) Chattisgarh (4) Tamil Nadu
20. Which of the following southern states has a high population density?  
 (1) Karnataka (2) Andhra Pradesh  
 (3) Kerala (4) Tamil Nadu

#### True or false

- A census is an official enumeration of population done periodically.
- Birth rate is the number of deaths per thousand persons in a year.
- Adolescents are generally grouped in the age group of 10 to 19 years.
- Orissa is the biggest state in terms of area.
- West Bengal has the highest literacy rate.
- UP has the highest population in India.

#### Fill in the blanks

- \_\_\_\_\_ is the most populated state of India.
- \_\_\_\_\_ has a population of just about 0.5 million.
- The population density of India in the year 2001 was \_\_\_\_\_ persons per sq km.
- \_\_\_\_\_ is an important determinant of population change.
- Kerala has a sex ratio of \_\_\_\_\_.
- The \_\_\_\_\_ policy came into existence in 2000.

#### Match the column

| Column-I |             | Column-II |   |
|----------|-------------|-----------|---|
| (1)      | census      | (a)       | policy to provide free and compulsory education upto 14 years |
| (2)      | migration   | (b)       | an official enumeration of population done periodically       |
| (3)      | NPP         | (c)       | starts from 15 and lasts till 59 years                        |
| (4)      | working age | (d)       | moving from one place to other                                |
| (5)      | literacy    | (e)       | ability to read and write                                     |

### EXERCISE # 1 ANSWER KEY FORMATIVE ASSESSMENT

#### Multiple choice questions

| Que. | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 | 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 | 20 |
|------|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|
| Ans. | 3 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 3 | 4 | 4 | 2 | 4 | 2  | 4  | 2  | 4  | 2  | 2  | 3  | 1  | 1  | 4  | 3  |

#### True or false

1. True 2. False 3. True 4. False 5. False 6. True

#### Fill in the blanks

1. Uttar Pradesh 2. Sikkim 3. 324 4. Migration 5. 1058/1000 6. National population

#### Match the column

1. (1) → b ; (2) → d ; (3) → a ; (4) → c ; (5) → e

## EXERCISE # 2

## SUMMATIVE ASSESSMENT

### Short answer type questions

1. What was India's population according to 2001 census?
2. What is birth rate? How is it estimated?
3. Why is birth rate a major component of population growth in India?
4. What is a census?
5. What is internal migration?
6. How is literacy a very important quality of a population and low levels of literacy an obstacle?
7. What are the demerits of over population?

### Long answer type questions

1. Explain the process of population growth?
2. Describe India's population distribution by density?
3. Explain the national population policy?
4. What are the advantages of having a healthy population?
5. Describe the categories in which population of a nation is classified?
6. Define annual growth rate?
7. Explain the occupational structure of population?



## NCERT QUESTIONS WITH ANSWERS

1. Choose the right answer from the four alternatives given below :
- (i) Migrations change the number, distribution and composition of the population in :  
(a) the area of departure (b) both the area of departure and arrival  
(c) the area of arrival (d) none of the above
- Ans.** Both the area of departure and arrival
- (ii) A large proportion of children in a population is a result of  
(a) high birth rates (b) high life expectancies  
(c) high death rates (d) more married couples
- Ans.** High birth rates
- (iii) The magnitude of population growth refers to :  
(a) the total population of an area  
(b) the number of persons added each year  
(c) the rate at which the population increases  
(d) the number of females per thousand males
- Ans.** The total population of an area
- (iv) According to the Census 2001, a literate person is one who  
(a) can read and write his/her name  
(b) can read and write any language  
(c) is 7 year old and can read and write any language with understanding  
(d) knows 3 Rs (reading, writing, arithmetic)
- Ans.** Is seven year old and can read and write any language with understanding.
2. Answer the following questions briefly.
- (i) Why is the rate of population growth in India declining since 1981 ?
- Ans.** The rate of population growth has been declining as a result of greater use of birth control measures.
- (ii) Discuss the major components of population growth.
- Ans.** The major components of population growth are Birth Rate, Death Rate and Migration. The difference between birth rate and death rate accounts for natural increase in population. Adoption of family planning measures leads to decline in birth rate. Better availability of medical facilities leads to decrease in death rate. Internal migration only changes the pattern of population over different parts of the country. International migration affects both the magnitude and the quality of population.
- (iii) Define age structure, death rate and birth rate.
- Ans.** Birth rate is the number of live births per thousand persons in a year. Death rate is the number of deaths per thousand persons in a year. Age structure refers to the number of people in different age groups. The commonly adopted age groups are children (0-14 years), Adults (15-59 years) and Aged (60 years and above)
- (iv) How is migration a determinant of population change ?
- Ans.** Internal migration determines population change across regions and territories within the country. In India there has been a significant migration from the rural areas to the cities. Apart from magnitude, migration also brings about change in terms of sex ratio and age composition. The migration from rural areas comprises only men. As such, the sex ratio in village registers a decline and so does the age composition. The number of able-bodied men in village is reduced as a result of the rural-urban migration.
3. Distinguish between population growth and population change.
- Ans.** Population growth is different from population change. Population growth is determined by the birth and death rates. Population change, on the other hand, is determined by the birth and death rates and also by migration.

4. What is the relation between occupational structure and development ?

**Ans.** Development is related to occupational structure of the population. Countries are less developed where a higher percentage of population is engaged in primary occupations like agriculture, animal husbandry, forestry and fishing.

As development takes place more people move into secondary occupations like manufacturing. In highly developed societies, there are a high percentages of people involved in tertiary occupations like banking, commerce, transport and administration.

5. What are the advantages of having a healthy population ?

**Ans.** A healthy population ensures higher productive efficiency. Absenteesim is low where the workers are healthy.

6. What are the significant features of the National Population Policy 2000 ?

OR

Write any three goals of National Population Policy 2000.

**Ans.** (i) The National Population Policy 2000 aims at reducing infant mortality rate to below 30 per thousand live births.

(ii) The policy framework provides for imparting free and compulsory school education up to 14 years of age.

(iii) Some other areas of attention are promoting delayed marriages for girls and achieving universal immunisation of children against all vaccine preventable diseases. Family planning programme is to be promoted on a voluntary basis.