

Class: IX

Subject: Social Science (087) - Geography

Chapter: 6 Population

Notes

- Human beings are producers and consumers of earth's resources.
- A census is an official enumeration (numbering) of population done periodically. The first census in India (partial) was done in 1872. While, the first complete census was done in 1881. It is done every 10 years. The recent census was done in 2011.

Population Size and Distribution

India's Population Size and Distribution by Numbers

- As of March 2011, India's population was 1,210.6 million which accounts for 17.5% of the world's population.
- Uttar Pradesh is the most populous state of India with a population size of 199 million as it counts about 16% of the country's population.
- Almost half of India's population lives in just five states which are Uttar Pradesh, Maharashtra, Bihar, West Bengal and Andhra Pradesh.
- Rajasthan, the biggest state in terms of area, has only 5.5 per cent of the total population of India
- On the other hand, the Himalayan state of Sikkim has a population of just about 0.6 million and Lakshadweep has only 64,429 people

India's Population Distribution by Density

- Population Density is calculated as the number of persons per unit area.
- The population density of India in the year 2011 was 382 persons per sq km. That's why India is considered one of the most densely populated countries in the world.
- Densities vary from 1,102 persons per sq km in Bihar to only 17 persons per sq km in Arunachal Pradesh.

Population Growth and Processes of Population Change

The numbers, distribution and composition of the population are constantly changing. This is the influence of the interaction of the three processes:

1. Birth
2. Death
3. Migration

Population Growth

Growth of population refers to the change in the number of inhabitants of a country/territory during a specific period of time. This change can be expressed in two ways:

1. In terms of absolute numbers: The absolute numbers are obtained by subtracting the earlier population (e.g. that of 2001) from the later population (e.g. that of 2011).
2. In terms of percentage change per year: It is studied in percent per annum, e.g. a rate of increase of 2 per cent per annum means that in a given year, there was an increase of two persons for every 100 persons in the base population. This is referred to as the **annual growth rate**.

Processes of Population Change/Growth

Three main processes of change of population are:

1) Birth Rates: Birth rate is the number of live births per thousand persons in a year. In India, birth rates have always been higher than death rates.

2) Death Rates: Death rate is the number of deaths per thousand persons in a year.

3) Migration: Migration is the movement of people across regions and territories.

Migration can be internal (within the country) or international (between the countries).

- It influences the distribution of population within the nation.
- Most migrations have been from rural to urban areas because of the “push” factor in rural areas and urban to rural because of the ‘pull’ factor.
- In India, the rural-urban migration has resulted in a steady increase in the percentage of the population in cities and towns.
- The urban population has increased from 17.29 per cent of the total population in 1951 to 31.80 per cent in 2011
- There has been a significant increase in the number of ‘million plus cities’ from 35 to 53 in just one decade.