



Review Article

## Population Explosion and its Remedial Steps

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### Abstract

*India is the second largest country in the terms of population next to china. China and India are the two most populous countries of the world. China is the most crowded country with approximately 1.42 billion people in 2018.*

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India is second largest country in respect to population with approximately 1.35 billion inhabitants in 2018. China and India together account for 36.28% of total world population 7,632,819,325. According to the UN's 2019 World Population Prospects report, by 2027, India will have more population than china and by 2050 the gap is expected to have widened even further. As per a United Nations report, "India is expected to add nearly 273 million people between 2019 and 2050, while the population of Nigeria is projected to grow by 200 million. Together, these two countries could account for 23 per cent of the global population increase to 2050".

Is population explosion a boon or a curse? Population of a country plays a crucial role in the economic development and growth. The European developed countries like Spain and Italy, where the population is decreasing; this might be considered as a boon. However, for the developing countries like India, population explosion is a curse and is damaging to the development of the country and its society. The population growth and economic

growth are usually closely confluent, but not in every case. China and India experienced huge population growth for the best part of the 20th century without much economic growth. The relation between population growth and economic growth is present only when there is a tight link between economic activity and fertility decisions. In case of China and India, this link was broken for most part of the last decade. For most modern societies, the link is tight. Developing country like India where the resources are in scarcity and with the rapidly increasing population, the resources available per person are reduced further, which leads to increased poverty, malnutrition, unemployment and other large population-related problems.

### Demographic Trends In India

India is on second position in respect to population in the world. The population of India constitutes nearly 17.99 percent of the world's total population in 2020 which arguably means that one person in every 6 people in the world is a resident of India. While it's geographical area is only 2.4 percent of the globe.

Table 1: Population growth of India (1911-2011)

Census Years	Population	Change in Population Between Censuses	Percent Change Between Censuses	Annual Growth Rate (percent)
1901	238,396,327	—	—	—
1911	252,093,390	13,697,063	5.8	0.6
1921	251,321,213	-772,177	-0.03	0
1931	278,977,238	27,656,025	11.0	1.0
1941	318,660,580	39,683,342	14.2	1.3
1951	361,088,090	42,427,510	13.3	1.3
1961	439,234,771	78,146,681	21.6	2.0
1971	548,159,652	108,924,881	24.8	2.2
1981	683,329,097	135,169,445	24.7	2.2
1991	846,421,039	163,091,942	23.9	2.2
2001	1,028,737,436	182,316,397	21.5	2.0
2011	1,210,193,422	181,455,986	17.6	1.6

**Source:** Registrar General of India, Census 2011, And Provisional Population Totals.

Table -1 show the rate of population growth was moderate and irregular till 1921. From the year 1921, the rate of growth is increasing at increasing rate. The net increase of population during the 30 years from 1921 to 1951 was of the order of 110 million. According to the census

report of India 2011, the population of India at present is 1,210,726,932. It is also evident from the data that the rate of population growth in India goes beyond the human control. The population rate of the country will also get doubled itself within coming 50 years.

**Table 2: Population of India yearly change (2015-2020)**

Year	Population	Yearly % Change	Yearly Change	Country's Share of World Pop	World Population
2020	<b>1,380,004,385</b>	0.99 %	13,586,631	17.70 %	7,794,798,739
2019	<b>1,366,417,754</b>	1.02 %	13,775,474	17.71 %	7,713,468,100
2018	<b>1,352,642,280</b>	1.04 %	13,965,495	17.73 %	7,631,091,040
2017	<b>1,338,676,785</b>	1.07 %	14,159,536	17.74 %	7,547,858,925
2016	<b>1,324,517,249</b>	1.10 %	14,364,846	17.75 %	7,464,022,049
2015	<b>1,310,152,403</b>	1.20 %	15,174,247	17.75 %	7,379,797,139

**Source:** [Worldometer \(www.Worldometers.info\)](http://www.Worldometers.info) Elaboration of data by United Nations, Department of Economic and Social Affairs, Population Division. [World Population Prospects: The 2019 Revision](#). (Medium-fertility variant)

### Effects of Population Growth In India

- **Adverse Effect on per Capital Income:** large population and its rapid

rate of growth is one of the significant reasons of low per capita income in economy. Income optimizing level is a level at which growth of population

increases per capita income but beyond that it necessarily lowers the same.

- **Problem of Unemployment:** Population is increasing rapidly; it means a large number of persons coming to the labour market for which it may not be possible to provide employment. According to data released by centre for monitoring Indian Economy, Indian unemployment rate increased to 7.7 per cent in December, slightly higher than 7.48 per cent. In November, the unemployment rate had fallen nearly 1 per cent to 7.48 per cent compared to a three-year high of 8.45 per cent in October 2019.
- **Adverse Effect on Environment:** Rapid population growth leads to the environmental change. Rapid population growth has swelled the ranks of unemployed men and women at an alarming rate. Population growth creates depletion in natural resources. World has limited recourses which is now scarcity of the current needs. Besides all this, the increasing population growth leads to the migration of large number to urban areas with industrialization. This results in polluted air, water, noise and population in big cities and towns.
- **Growing Population lowers Standard of Living:** The standard of living is determined by their per capita income. The factors affecting per capita income in relation to population growth equally apply to the standard of living. Increase in population leads to increase the demand of food, cloth, house etc. As difference between demand and supply of resources continues to expand due to overpopulation, it raises the prices of various commodities including food, shelter and healthcare. Due to this cost of living is high.

## **Remedial Measures To Control Population Growth In India**

- **Proper Education:** proper education is one of the important measures to implement various policies reflecting social change in our country. The government of India should take initiatives for educating mass people about population which help them to understand the need to have fewer children in their family. Proper education will make people aware about population growth in the country.
- **Awareness about Family Planning:** As population of the whole world is growing at a rapid pace, raising awareness among people regarding family planning and letting them know about serious effects of overpopulation can help to decrease population growth.
- **Knowledge of Sex Education:** Imparting proper sex education at elementary level should be made compulsory in schools. It will make aware about population growth among the students from the school.

## **Conclusion**

In the circumstances mentioned, it is very clear that Rapid growth of population becomes a matter of concerns for the country as it leads so many serious environmental problems. There is a need to control population growth in the country for the conservation of natural environment. “National Population Policy in India – 2000” is a serious step taken by government toward population control in our country. Population increase in India is now showing an alarming position and if proper steps to check it are not taken

immediately, the entire economy system is bound to collapse. In my opinion the government has to promulgate some strict act and actions such as declaration of one child by the job seekers (if not married), if married preference will be given to those having one child only and declaration for the same be given by the applicant. For those having more than one i.e. two children they may be considered but only when the first category is not available and for those having more than two children, their claim for the job should not be considered under any circumstances. Further proper incentives should also be provided to those young people who are not in either government, semi government or in private sectors but are having one child only. This act or action should be made binding and mandatory for each and every citizen of India irrespective of caste, creed and sex.

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