

POPULATION EXPLOSION

population explosion means a sudden increase in the number of individuals in a particular species. The term is used to refer to the world's human population. In India, the population explosion has become a grave matter of concern because the increase in population leads to poverty and illiteracy. In this situation, it is difficult to cope with the economy of the country with the rapid growth of the population. The Government of India is now looking into the matter seriously, and many states have framed laws to tackle the problem of population explosion.

Major Cause of Population Explosion.

1. Increase in Birth Rate

One of the major cause for the growth of the population is the high birth rate. During the 1971-1990 period, the birth rate declined from 45.8 per thousand in India, but it is still considered high. So, unfortunately, in India, the birth rate has not seen a decrease in spite of the framing law in terms of family planning, population education, campaign, etc.

2. Decrease in Death Rate

In recent years, the decrease in the death rate has been another factor contributing the rapid growth of the population. In 2001, the death rate in India was about 8.5 per thousand. The death rate has been a decrease due to advancements in the medical field. For example, chronic diseases like typhoid, chickenpox, etc., are no longer dreaded. Even the infant mortality rate has decreased because of proper sanitation facilities, cleanliness, and better prenatal and postnatal care.

3. Early Marriage

Early marriage is also an essential factor in the rapid increase in population. In India, the marriage age of a girl is 18, which is very low compared to other countries, which is about 23 to 25 years. It leads to a longer span of reproductive activity.

4. Religious and Social Reasons.

In India, marriage is considered a compulsory social institution, and every person should marry. Every individual in a joint family takes equal responsibility and has access to an equivalent level of consumption. So, people don't hesitate to increase their family size to a joint family. In India, most people think that one male child is necessary, and in the expectation of getting

a male child, they increase their family size.

5. Poverty

Another major cause of the population explosion is poverty. In most families, children become the source of income from a very young age. children start working for their families instead of going to school, and they become a precious asset to the family. So, every individual becomes an earning member and additional income for the family.

6. Standard of Living

It is seen that people with a low standard of living wish to have additional children as it will be an asset for them rather than a liability. As we know, most of India's population is uneducated so that don't understand the importance of family planning. They are unaware that they can enjoy a better quality of life with a small family.

7. Illiteracy

In India, 60% of the population is either illiterate or has minimum education, which leads to minimal employment opportunities. So, due to the high illiteracy rate and belief in social customs, child marriage and preference for a male child still prevail. As a result, there is a rapid population.

growth rate in India.

Effects of Population Explosion.

1. The problem of unemployment

An increase in population leads to a vast army of the labour force. But, it is difficult to employ such extensive labour working force due to a shortage of capital resources. Disguised unemployment in rural areas and open unemployment in urban areas are fundamental features of an underdeveloped country like India.

2. More pressure on land.

Overpopulation creates more pressure on land. It adversely affects the economic development of the country. On the one hand, per capita availability of land goes on diminishing and on the other, the problem of subdivision and fragmentation of holdings increases.

Environmental Degradation.

Extensive use of natural resources and energy production of oil, natural gas, and coal negatively impacts the planet. An increase in pollution also leads to deforestation, which directly affects the environment, and it also degrades the soil's nutritional value and causes landslides and global warming.

Preventive Measures

To tackle this problem, the government needs to take corrective measures. The entire development of the country depends on how effectively the population explosion is stemmed.

The government and various NGOs should raise awareness about family planning and welfare. The awareness about the use of contraceptive pills and family planning methods should be generated.

The health care centres should help the poor people with the free distribution of contraceptives and encourage the control of the number of children.

The government should come forward to empower women and improve the status of women and girls. People in rural places should be educated and modern amenities should be provided for recreation.

Conclusion

So we can summarise the topic by stating that population explosion is a term used to state the rapid growth of people in a particular area. It is because of lack of education, illiteracy, lack of proper knowledge of rituals, and superstition in the country's most populated area.

Overpopulation results in a lack of development and exploitation of resources, whereas India's strength in the global world in various fields cannot be ignored. By raising public awareness and enlisting strict population control norms, India will be able to tackle this issue.

It doesn't mean that will happen very quickly and without any effort. It will take time because India constitutes one of the huge countries of about 138 Crore (2020) people. Proper effective and steady step will lead India to a greater good.

It helps the country control the population explosion and also helps to provide good result in several other things like the good environment, abundant natural resources, proper employment, proper literacy rate with high growth in development etc.

All this could be possible if we take some measures and be good citizens of this country. So that is how we can overcome this issue of population explosion.