A study on Population of India and Challenges

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Abstract

India is the second most populous country in the world after China upto 30th july 2017. India's population is 1,349,665,917 (1.34 billion) and the China is 1,415,489,506 (1.41 billion) people. [1] By 2020, the average of Indian will be 29 years compared to 37 for China and 48 for Japan and dependency ratio should be just over 0.4. [2] The sex ratio is 944 females for 1000 males. In the world's population India represents 17.85%, but it is expected that by 2030 India is reaching 1.53 billion.[1] The good part of India is 50% of population is below the age of 25, and more than 65% of population is below the age of 35. [2]

The unemployed youth will be big menace to the country. The latest survey from Ministry of Labour and Employment on employment showed that unemployment rate is 4% in males and 8.7% in females. While a larger number of people could be without work, the unemployed population is considered as the one which is actively looking for work but is not able to find employment.

Along with the growth of population, the challenges & problems also will grow. There will be serious challenges with the rapid growth of population are food, water, employment, education, healthcare and nutrition. This paper tries to review to analyse the facts, present methods to suggest the suitable strategies to control the population.

Keywords: Population, growth, problems, earnings, economy, control policies

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1.   Introduction:

As the world celebrates World Population Day, India reflects on its population woes. The second most populous country in the world is set to surpass China as the most populous country by 2024 and according to estimates, the drop in India's population will only come around 2050. Although India can boast of the world's largest young workforce and the economic growth potential therein, the problems are huge and daunting.

As everyone knows that the Geography, resources will not increase in any part of the world. The land is not increasing, the food is not increasing in the ration of population even though it is used advanced technology.

2. Objectives

1) To study the Population and control measures of India

2) To analyse the measures and impact of control measures

3) To suggest the suitable strategies to control population of India.

3. Research Methodology

1) Secondary data available through internet sources

2) Descriptive and Exploratory study

4. Limitations:

1) As the data is collected for different sources and purposes, there may not be focused findings.

2) Different authors viewed the problems in different angles.

5. Literature Review & Discussion

Population:

Express Web Desk(Jul 2017)[3], estimated that India is the second most populous country in the world is crossing China by 2024.

Employment:

According to BSE estimates, India's unemployment rate stands at 3.8%. (Source: BSE). According to estimations based on a 30-day moving average of the all India unemployment rate, the BSE put the average employment rate on June 30, 2017 at 3.8%. It showed unemployment in rural India at 3.47% and 4.47% in urban India.

Healthcare:

As per the data of Indiaspend.com, India is short of specialist medical practitioners by 81 per cent in rural community health centres and the private sector has 63 per cent. The Government identified the challenges in economic and social spectrum. Hence it is formulated the National Health Policy 2017 for sustainable development to ensure employment growth and population are brought on a same level.

Insurance:

India is the lowest per capita expenditure on healthcare. Around 65 per cent of healthcare costs are borne by the savings by citizens. Public Insurance contribution is India is 32% whereas in UK 83.5%. 76% of Indians do not have health insurance. As there is no sufficient number of quality hospitals, the people are opting the Private institutions.

Workforce:

50% of Indian population is below the age of 25 years, around 65% is below the age of 35 years. The average of Indian citizen by 2020 will be 29 years which is comparatively better than China and Japan 37 years & 48 years respectively.

Family Planning

To control and stabilize the population in India, the measures like Mission Parivar Vikas, under this scheme Uttar Pradesh Government planned to distribute condoms and contraceptives to the newly married couples along with 'Nayi Pahal' kit which carry brochures, guidelines and other important pieces of information on safe sex and family planning

New Family Planning Media Campaign, Scheme for ASHAs to ensure spacing in births etc. Increasing male participation and promotion of 'Non Scalpel Vasectomy'', Operating the 'National Family Planning Indemnity Scheme' (NFPIS) under which clients are insured in the eventualities of deaths, complications and failures following sterilization and the providers/accredited institutions are indemnified against litigations in those eventualities" etc.

Compare to India, China adopted 'One Child Policy" , it is restricted to one child for a couple. In opposite to China, United States While India has many policies to control birth rate, China decided to do away with the controversial 'One Child Policy' according to which a couple was only allowed a child. In 2015, 35 years after the implementation of the policy, China government ended the policy and allowed the couples to have more than one child. United States has been lagging behind in controlling the birth rate in the country. According to the

reports, over half of the pregnancies in the United States of America are unintended. The reports also have it that contraceptives remain underused in the country.

Singapore didn't get a maternity leave if they are pregnant with a third child. Also, between 1969 and 1972, the government made sure that hospitals charge incrementally higher fees for each additional child and Income tax deductions are given for the first two children only.

Chanchal Chauhan (Jul 2017) [4], the United Nations through World Population Day seeks to "focus attention on the urgency and importance of population issues" with the theme Family Planning. On UN's page for World Population Day, it reads: "Around the world, some 225 million women who want to avoid pregnancy are not using safe and effective family planning methods, for reasons ranging from lack of access to information or services to lack of support from their partners or communities. Most of these women with an unmet demand for contraceptives live in 69 of the poorest countries on earth."

Diego Palacios (Apr 2017)[5], Even after fertility rates drop to replacement levels, the total population will still grow as per the census in 2011. The NFHS-4 shows that in the past decade, the average number of children per family has come down from 2.7 to 2.2. With replacement fertility being 2.1 children per woman, this is good news for the land and the people.

Even after fertility rates drop to replacement levels, the total population will still grow, and is likely to reach 1.7 billion by 2050. The thrust of this growth will come from the youth bulge, with 365 million (10-24 years old) already in, or soon to enter, their reproductive ages.

Demand-supply of working population

When States are clustered in terms of fertility levels, one foresees a predominantly youthful north and an ageing south. Most of the current and future demographic potential is locked in the northern States and largely located in Bihar, Jharkhand, Madhya Pradesh, Odisha, Rajasthan, and Uttar Pradesh. In the south, there will be a dearth of young working people to keep up and expand the level of economic development. Investing in young people in the north to realise the demographic dividend will be a win-win situation for all India, north and south.

From the policy perspective, this means that for India as a whole, it is time for the emphasis to be on momentum-focussed policies and programmes.

Hindustan Times (May 2017)[6], The group says that India's population is growing so rapidly that it is neutralising gains from economic growth. They have pointed out that the country's population has grown four times since independence — from 36 crore to 132 crore. The group's forecasts are dire: they have estimated that India's population will grow at the annual rate of 1.2% and reach 199 crore in 2050. They have predicted that the country's fertility

rate — the number of children per woman — will be 2.45 in 2050. The focus should be on good education, infant mortality and early marriage.

Pooja Mehta(2017)[7], According to her there is a need of Social measure like raising the minimum age of marriage by strict implementation of laws, raising the status of women by giving more opportunities to grow socially and economically by free education and support. Creating and educating the awareness of family planning. There is a need of social security scheme, not to depend at the old age, sickness, unemployment etc.,

Economic measures like more employment opportunities to rural population, developing agriculture industry, improving the standard of living. According to A.K. Das Gupta, the people who earn below 100 Rs. Per month have an average reproduction rate of 3.4 children and who earn more than 300 Rs have a reproduction rate of 2.8.

Other measures like Late marriages which reduce the reproduction which brings down birth rate. Proper awareness of population control methods, family planning methods through by giving good publicity in media like T.V., radio and newspaper to the uneducated and illiterate persons especially in the rural and backward areas of country. Monitory incentives, leaves sanctioning to be given for adopted people. Employment opportunities given to woman in all the fields can be good measure.

Abhiprerna Smit (May 2017) [8], according to researcher, Population can be controlled by creating the awareness of delayed marriage, by providing the good medical facilities, by good legislative actions on child marriage, minimum education, abolition of child labor and beggary, slaverism etc., It is good to provide health, educational and financial incentives. Spreading awareness through conducting campaigns, nutrition food, need of education, availability of medical facilities. Women empowerment in all sectors, house and society is required to remove the discrimination. Eardicating the poverty is the measure to avoid the child labor, slave trading, human trafficking in the continents like Asia and Africa. People give birth for selling to rich people, and if the child is not sold, then parents force their kids to beg or work at a very tender so as to earn some extra money for the family. These people believe that more kids mean more hands for begging and work and thus more money. Hence all the steps will be vain without eradicating the poverty. Proper education will give the good results for empowerment of women. Availability of low cost contraceptives to avoid unwanted pregnancies and births. Advertisements of sexually transmitted diseases like AIDS thus ensuring small healthy families.

Finally, the researcher compared the countries on the basis of population like America, Europe or Japan not facing the problems compared to countries in Africa and Asia. It shows that the countries are lagging behind with high poverty, lack of awareness, lack of medical facilities, high discrimination because of high population.

6. Findings:

1) India is the second most population city after China upto 30th July 2017. India's population is 1,349,665,917 (1.34 billion) and the China is 1,415,489,506 (1.41 billion) people.

2) The sex ratio is 944 females for 1000 males. In the world's population India represents 17.85%.

3) In India 50% of population is below the age of 25, and more than 65% of population is below the age of 35.

4) Unemployment rate is 4% in males and 8.7% in females.

5) Unemployment in rural India at 3.47% and 4.47% in urban India.

6) 81 per cent in rural community health centres and the private sector has 63 per cent.

7) 76% of Indians do not have health insurance.

8) As there is no sufficient number of quality hospitals, the people are opting the Private institutions.

9) 50% of Indian population is below the age of 25 years, around 65% is below the age of 35 years.

10) The average of Indian citizen by 2020 will be 29 years which is comparatively better than China and Japan 37 years & 48 years respectively.

11) Country's population has grown four times since independence — from 36 crore to 132 crore. The group's forecasts are dire: they have estimated that India's population will grow at the annual rate of 1.2% and reach 199 crore in 2050. They have predicted that the country's fertility rate — the number of children per woman — will be 2.45 in 2050. The focus should be on good education, infant mortality and early marriage.

12) Mission Parivar Vikas, 'Nayi Pahal' New Family Planning Media Campaign, Scheme for ashas, 'Non Scalpel Vasectomy'', Operating the 'National Family Planning Indemnity Scheme' (NFPIS) under which clients are insured in the eventualities of deaths,

complications and failures following sterilization and the providers/accredited institutions are indemnified against litigations in those eventualities" etc.

13) The NFHS-4 shows that in the past decade, the average number of children per family has come down from 2.7 to 2.2. With replacement fertility being 2.1 children per woman, this is good news for the land and the people.

14) Most of the current and future demographic potential is locked in the northern States and largely located in Bihar, Jharkhand, Madhya Pradesh, Odisha, Rajasthan, and Uttar Pradesh. In the south, there will be a dearth of young working people to keep up and expand the level of economic development. Investing in young people in the north to realise the demographic dividend will be a win-win situation for all India, north and south.

15) Compare to India, China adopted 'One Child Policy" , it is restricted to one child for a couple.

16) Singapore didn't get a maternity leave if they are pregnant with a third child.

17) There is no adequate quality hospitals, hence people rely on private hospitals where they will spend huge money.

18) The National Health Policy 2017 emphasises quality of care and commitment to sustainable development, and positions improved access, education and empowerment as the basis for population stabilisation.

19) It is found that the countries like America, Europe or Japan not facing the problems compared to countries in Africa and Asia. It shows that the countries are lagging behind with high poverty, lack of awareness, lack of medical facilities, high discrimination because of high population.

7. Suggestions:

1) There is a need of strict policies like China's one child policy and implementation of the same.

2) There is a need of formulae's/ methods for happy family and those things should be chanted at times of marriage to create the awareness of population, facts and methods.

3) Education should include the chapters of population and family planning at the young stage itself.

4) Proper measures to be taken to equalise sex ratio females to males.

5) As the young generation is high in India, they should be employed. Unemployed youth is danger to country, they may search for shortcut methods for earning, chances there to become Gundas, Rowdies, Naxalites and Terrorists.

6) Proper employment at Rural areas has to be done to avoid migration.

7) Proper Healthcare centres with facilities and doctors are required

8) There should be compulsory health insurance to support the people of India. Hence, there is a need of proper Government policies creation, awareness and implementation.

9) There is a need of training programs to couples for pregnancy and for seekers of children.

10) There is a need of raise in minimum age of marriage, employment generation is rural areas, developing agriculture industry, awareness of family planning, good medical facilities.

8. Conclusion

In India, for everything there is training, but there is no training for couples for pregnancy and child seeking. The couples who are willing to have child, undergo proper training and to be certified by authority that they are having proper idea on the pros and cons of child, so that proper planning by parent will reduce 50% of the population control measure.

The Government of India should focus on implementation of the policies rather than creation of the new policies. The Government should facilitate with the medicine, doctors, hygiene in the Government hospitals to attract the health seekers. There is a need of introduction of family planning chapters at the young age only.

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