

Chh. Shivaji College of Education, Rukadi

Article on World Population Day



Mrs. Trupti Rohan Patil
Roll No. 44, B.Ed I year



World Population Day: 11th July

Every year on July 11 World Population Day is commemorated to increase public awareness of concerns related to population growth. It is observed that the **United Nations Development Programme created World Population Day in 1989**, when there were 5 billion people on the planet. The day was suggested by **Dr K.C. Zachariah**. Its purpose was to raise awareness of population control solutions. In 2023, the population of the globe reached 8 billion, according to the United Nations Population Fund.

The United Nations Population Fund releases a statement every year on the occasion of World Population Day. And the official statement for this year says, **“A world of 8 billion: Towards a resilient future for all; Harnessing opportunities and ensuring rights and choices for all.”**

Significance of the Day:

Actually the goal of this day to increase public awareness of the detrimental effects of the population growth on the nature, environment and development. It raises awareness about global population challenges. It stresses for reproductive health, family planning, and sustainable development to unite for a balanced, equitable, and prosperous world.

Various events, campaigns, and initiatives are organized worldwide to raise awareness about reproductive health, family planning, and the importance of population control. Governments, organizations, and individuals come together to discuss strategies, share knowledge, and implement solutions for a balanced and equitable world population.

Recently, the **United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA)** has released the **State of World Population report 2023**, which states that India will overtake China to become the **world's most populous country by the middle of 2023**.

DEMOGRAPHIC INDICATORS					
	Population	15-64 years	65+	TFR	Life expectancy
India	1,428.6 mn	68%	7%	2.0	72.5 yrs
China	1,425.7 mn	69%	14%	1.2	79 yrs
World	8,045 mn	65%	10%	2.3	73.5 yrs

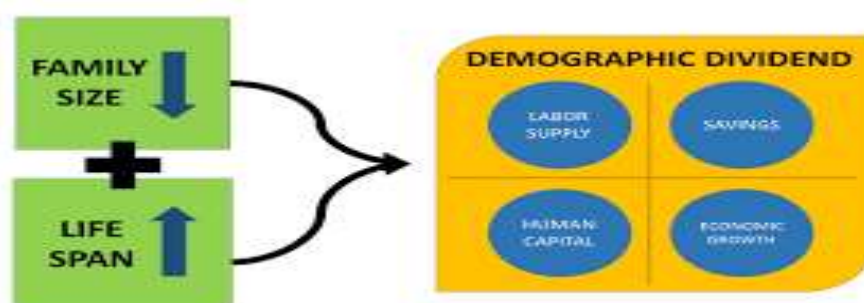
UNFPA's State of World Population Report 2023

▪ **Population Estimation:**

- India's population is pegged to reach 142.86 crore against China's 142.57 crore by July 2023.
- **25% of India's population is in the age group of 0-14 years, 18% in the 10-19 age group, 26% in the age bracket of 10-24 years, 68% in the 15-64 years age group, and 7% above 65 years.**

Opportunities and Drawbacks for India:

▪ **Opportunities:**



○ **Demographic Dividend:**

- India's population offers a significant advantage in terms of a large workforce, which can help drive economic growth.
- **India's 68 % population are in the 15 to 64 years age group, providing a significant contribution to the working or able-to-work population.**
- It certainly looks like a demographic dividend when a lot of advanced countries in the world struggle due to

their population **growing old thus reducing the number of those who could work.**

- **Attracting Businesses and Innovation:**

- With a large population, India represents a vast and growing consumer market, which can attract investments and spur domestic production.
- India can leverage its demographic dividend to attract big businesses from Western countries which had chosen China for manufacturing.
- A large and diverse population **can be a source of innovation, as it brings together different perspectives, ideas, and approaches.**

- **Leader of Global South:**

- The status of the most populous country will also help India claim **leadership of the global south** for which it has been striving after assuming the G20 leadership in 2022.

- **Drawbacks:**

- **Unemployment and Social Problems:**

- High unemployment is a very big challenge for **India's young population**, which is compounded by the **limited availability of productive and remunerative jobs.**

For instance, in the civil services sector, nearly 6.5 lakh candidates compete for only 700 positions, while in the railways, thousands of youths for a few hundred low-ranking jobs.

- Unemployment not only leads to economic stress but also exacerbates social problems, especially when a significant portion of the working-age population is **unable to find suitable employment.**

- **Poor Labour Force Participation:**

- India's huge population is poor labour force participation, especially of women.
- India's female labour force participation rate in 2021 was 19%, lower than the world average at 25.1%, and has been declining for a long.

- **Poverty:**

- India's population includes a significant number of people living in poverty, which can exacerbate issues such as inequality, crime, and social unrest.

Effects of over population

Population and Quality of Life

Primary problems with overpopulation:

- 1. Environmental degradation**
- 2. Hunger**
- 3. Persistent poverty**
- 4. Economic stagnation**
- 5. Urban deterioration**
- 6. Health issues**



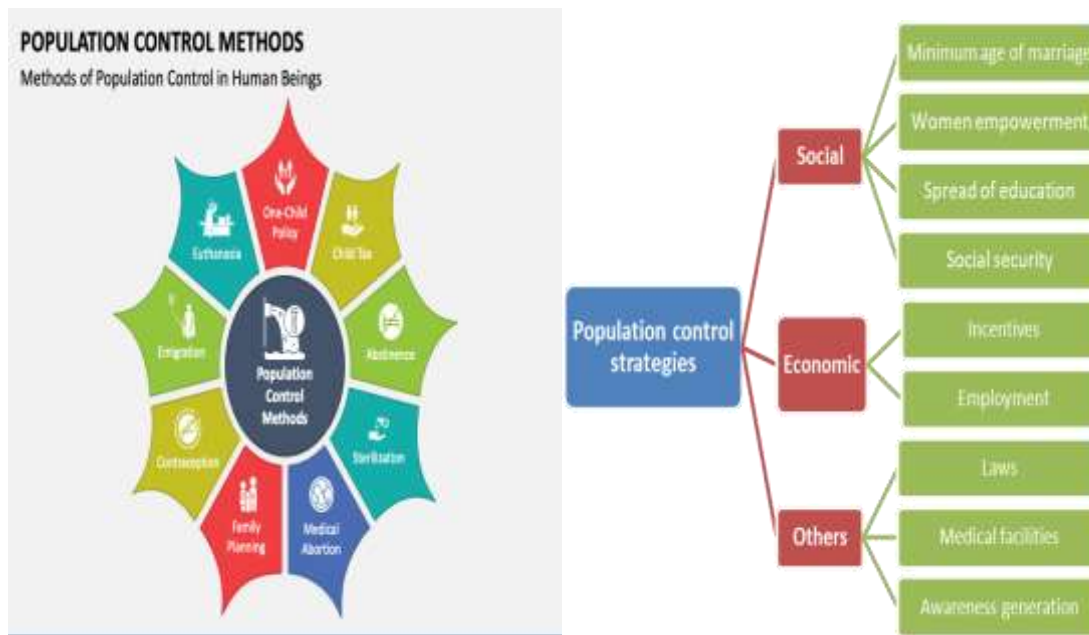
Each day, 1 billion people have no access to food and water. Also, many people in the developing countries are becoming illiterate. Most of them get their children married at young age which increases the chances of giving birth to more kids.

The other effects are as follows:

- 1. Depletion of natural resources:** Earth provides natural resources like coal, fossil fuels etc in limited amounts. As many people use the resources, there is a shortage for the resources. Moreover, people cut down trees, hunt wild animals and cause pollution which further depletes the resources.
- 2. Negative effects on environment:** As many people use vehicles, the air pollution has increased. Also, many industries let out harmful chemicals in air and water which pollutes the environment. Rise in carbon dioxide and methane levels emitted from cars, cement production etc lead to increase in overall temperature of earth's atmosphere. This in turn leads to melting of ice caps and rise in sea level. This phenomenon is known as global warming.
- 3. Rise in unemployment:** The rise in population significantly leads to rise in unemployment.
- 4. High cost of living:** The amount of products and services are certain in number. When the population increases, more demand would be present than supply. Hence, the prices of products and services would increase.
- 5. Conflicts and wars:** Overpopulation will put pressure on government to use more resources available. There have been conflicts over water to meet need of water among countries.

Measures to be taken to control over-population

1. As the population is growing day by day, people should be made aware of the ill effects it has on society and environment. They should be explained how family planning can help in controlling the ill effects. People should be taught to give birth to one or two children at the most. They should be taught about the challenges of having four to five children. They should be made aware about various safe sex techniques and contraceptive methods to avoid undesirable pregnancy.



What are the Recommendations?

- With almost half the population under 25 years of age, the focus should be **on giving women more power to educate and control when and how they have children.**
- Ensuring gender equality, empowerment and **advancing greater bodily autonomy for women and girls—is one of the key determinants** of a sustainable future.
- Thriving and inclusive societies can be built, regardless of population size, if countries are **prepared to radically rethink how we talk about**, and plan for, population change.
- In high-fertility countries, empowerment through education and family planning, is known to yield enormous dividends in the form of economic growth and human capital development.
- All governments should **uphold human rights, strengthen pension and healthcare systems, promote active and healthy aging**, protect migrants' rights, and seek to mitigate the damaging impact of climate change.