



CLASS – VIII

GEOGRAPHY CH- 6 HUMAN RESOURCE

STUDY MATERIAL

- People are a nation's greatest resource. It is people with their skills and abilities that turn them into 'resource'. Hence, human resource is ultimate resource.
- Healthy, educated and motivated people develop resources as per their requirements.
- Like other resources, human resources are not equally distributed over the world.
- Human resource is one of the building blocks for a nation's development.
- More the population of a country has, more it is considered to be rich in human resource.

### Distribution of Population:

- The pattern of population distribution refers to the way in which people are spread across the earth's surface.
- The distribution of population in the world is extremely uneven.
- Some areas are sparsely populated and some areas are densely populated due to relief features, climate conditions, etc.
- Many more people live north of the Equator than south of the equator and almost three-quarters of the world's people live in the continents of Asia and Africa.
- population in countries :China> India> USA > Indonesia > Brazil
- Most of the population concentrates in the tropical region of the world as this region is rich in resources.

### Density of Population:

- The number of people living in a unit area of the earth's surface is called population density.
- The average density of population in the whole world is 51 person per square km.
- South Central Asia has the highest density of population followed by East and South East Asia.
- Indonesia is the most dense nation of the world.
- Density of India is 382 persons per sq km, which is one of the highest in the world.

### Factor Affecting Distribution of Population:

- People prefer to live on plains because these areas are suitable for farming, manufacturing and service activities.
- Climate:** People prefer to live in moderate climate. They avoid extreme climates that are very hot or very cold.
- Soil:** Fertile soil provides suitable land for agriculture. These areas are densely populated.
- Water:** People prefer to live in areas where fresh water is easily available.
- Minerals:** Areas with mineral deposits are more populated.
- Topography:** Most of the population resides in plain areas as it provides better conditions to live and employment as well.

### Social, Cultural and Economic Factors:

- Areas of better housing, education, health facilities are more densely populated.
- Places with religious or cultural significance attract people.
- Industrial areas provide employment opportunities. Large numbers of people are attracted to these areas.

- iv. Countries which are politically stable give better living conditions to people.

### **Population Change:**

- i. The change in the number of people during a specific time is called population change.
- ii. Population change is due to changes in the number of births and deaths and migration.
- iii. Natural growth rate refers to the difference between the birth rate and the death rate of a country.
- iv. Advancement in food supplies, better medicines led to reduced death and birth rate remained intact. this gave rise to increase in population.
- v. Birth/Death rate : the number of live birth/Death per 1000 people.
- vi. Migration: movement of people in and out of an area.
- vii. Life expectancy: Number of years that an average person live.

### **Pattern of Population Change:**

- i. Rates of population growth vary across the world.
- ii. The world's total population, however, not all countries are experiencing this growth.
- iii. There is no relation between the economic status and population of a country.
- iv. Developing and underdeveloped countries shows more population birth rate parameters.
- v. The present population of the world is 7.6 billion and by it is expected to be rise by 9.6 billion by 2045.
- vi. By 2020 India is expected to surpass the population of China.

### **Population Composition:**

- i. Population composition is the structure of the population with various aspects such as sex, age, literacy level, health condition, occupation and income level.
- ii. The population composition of a country is described as population pyramid, which also called an age-sex pyramid.
- iii. The total population is divided into various groups: 5-9 years, 10-14 years.
- iv. The percentage of the total population is subdivided into males and females, in each of those groups.
- v. The shape of population pyramid, shows the people living in that particular country.
- vi. The number of children (below 15 years) are shown at the bottom and reflect the level of births. The size of the top shows the number of aged people (above 65 years) and reflects the number of deaths.
- vii. The population pyramid shows young dependents (aged below 15 years) and elderly dependents (aged over 65 years). The working people are in the middle group constitute the economically active segment.
- viii. Different countries show different patterns of population pyramids.
- ix. In Japan, low birth rates make the pyramid narrow at the base. Decreased death rates allow numbers of people to reach old age.
- x. India shows the birth pyramid which is broad at the base and thick in middle and taper towards end. it means India has a healthy population at middle age which shows the availability of human resource.
- xi. Least developed countries pyramids are broad at base but starts tapering in the middle which shows higher death rate.

## 1. Answer the following questions.

### (i) Why are people considered as resource?

**Ans:** Human resource or People are considered as an important and potential resource for society because of the following reasons :

1. With their demands and capabilities they can create new resources.
2. Nature's bounty becomes important only when people find it and make it useful for them.
3. Through education, good health and motivation they develop skills and aptitudes, which enable them to become more proficient in overcoming problems and hurdles and carry out more tasks effectively.
4. No resource can be utilised without the intervention of people. It is the people who add value to a resource.

### (ii) What are the causes of the uneven distribution of population in the world?

**Ans:** The distribution of population in the world is uneven. Some areas are very crowded while some are sparsely populated. Following are the main causes of the uneven distribution of population in the world:

- i. **Geographical factors:** Some of the reasons affecting population distribution are favourable topography, availability of mineral and freshwater resources, favourable climate and soil fertility. For example, Indo Gangetic Plains, Diamond Mines of South Africa etc are densely populated. Whereas desert regions like Sahara, mountainous regions like Himalayas and cold regions like Antarctica, etc are sparsely populated.
- ii. **Social and Cultural factors:** Areas of better housing, education and health facilities are more populated. eg. Pune. Places of religious and cultural significance also attract people e.g., Varanasi, Jerusalem etc.
- iii. **Economic factors:** Places having more industries, transportation and communication facilities provide better employment opportunities. People are attracted to these places because of the above reasons For example, Osaka, Mumbai etc.

### (iii) The world population has grown very rapidly. Why?

**Ans:** The world population has grown very rapidly because of the following reasons :

1. With advancements in science and technology, the growth of food supplies has increased. Development in healthcare facilities has helped in reducing the death rate.
2. Also, there is a decrease in the death rate but the birth rate has remained quite high.

### (iv) Discuss the role of any two factors influencing population change.

**Ans:**The two major factors that influence population change are:

#### **Natural growth:**

1. The difference between the birth rate and the death rate is referred to as the natural growth rate.
2. The birth rate is the number of live births per 1000 people, while the death rate is the number of deaths per 1000 people.
3. These are the natural causes of population change. When the birth rate is higher than the death rate, population increases. When the death rate is more than the birth rate, population decreases. When the two rates are equal, the population remains constant.
4. Thus, the birth and death rates affect the balance of population.

**Migration:** People may move within the country or between the countries. Thus migration is another factor that influences population change.

### (v) What is meant by population composition?

**Ans:**

1. The basic structure of the population is called Population composition.
2. Population composition helps to know the number of males or female, their age-groups, ethnicity, tribe, language, religion, literacy, their occupation, their income level and health conditions etc.

**(vi) What are population pyramids? How do they help in understanding the population of a country?**

**Ans: Population pyramids :**

1. A population pyramid is a graphical representation of population composition.
2. In a population pyramid, the total population is divided into various age groups, e.g. 5 to 9 years, 10 to 14 years, etc.
3. For each age group, the percentage of the total population is subdivided into males and females.

**They help in understanding the population of a country in the following way :**

1. It shows the present number of males and females in a country along with their age groups.
2. The age-group distribution of population tells us the number of dependents and the number of economically active individuals present in the population.

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**2. Tick the correct Answer.**

**(i) Which does the term population distribution refer to?**

- (a) How population in a specified area changes over time.
- (b) The number of people who die in relation to the number of people born in a specified area.
- (c) The way in which people are spread across a given area.

**Ans: (c) The way in which people are spread across a given area**

**(ii) Which are three main factors that cause population change?**

- (a) Births, deaths and marriage
- (b) Births, deaths and migration
- (c) Births, deaths and life expectancy

**Ans: (b) Births, deaths and migration**

**(iii) In 1999, the world population reached**

- (a) 1 billion
- (b) 3 billion
- (c) 6 billion

**Ans: (c) 6 billion**

**(iv) What is a population pyramid?**

- (a) A graphical presentation of the age, sex composition of a population.
- (b) When the population density of an area is so high that people live in tall buildings.
- (c) Pattern of population distribution in large urban areas.

**Ans: (a) A graphical presentation of the age, sex composition of a population.**

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**3. Complete the sentences below using some of the following words.**

sparsely, favourable, fallow, artificial, fertile, natural, extreme, densely

**When people are attracted to an area it becomes .....populated. Factors that influence this include ..... climate; good supplies of ..... resources and ..... land.**

**Ans: When people are attracted to an area it becomes densely populated. Factors that influence this include favourable climate; good supplies of natural resources and fertile land.**