



UNIT V POPULATION

NOTES

Population – Population is the total number of persons living in a particular area in a particular time period. The people are responsible for the development of the economy and society.

Growth of the population – Growth of population is the change in the number of people living in a country or region during a specific period of time. Population growth may be –ve or +ve. The change may be expressed in two ways –

- in terms of absolute numbers and
- in terms of percentage change per year.

Process of population change –

The three main processes of change in population are:

- **Birth rate** - Birth rate is the total number of live births per 1000 persons in a year.
- **Death rate** - Death rate is the total number of deaths per 1000 persons in a year.
- **Migration** - Migration is the movement of people from one place to another.
 - It is the third and the most important component of population growth.

Age composition – Age composition is one of the most important characteristic of a population. It refers to the number of people in different age groups in a country. According to age, the population of a country is classified into three broad categories.

- **Children (below 15 years)** – The children of this age group are economically unproductive.
- **Working Age (15-59 years)** – The people of this age group are the most important and form the working population. They are economically productive and biologically reproductive.
- **Aged (above 59 years)** – The people of this group are generally not physical strong. They are mostly physically and economically dependent.
- **Sex composition and sex ratio** – Sex composition means the proportion of male and female in the total population. It is expressed with the help of a ratio, known as sex ratio. Sex ratio is defined as the number of female per 1000 males in the population.



Occupational Structure – The distribution of population according to different types of occupation is termed as the occupational Structure. These occupations are classified into three groups –

- **Primary** - Primary occupations are those activities associated with agriculture, animal husbandry etc.
- **Secondary** - Secondary occupations are those activities associated with manufacturing industry, building and constructions etc.
- **Tertiary** - Tertiary occupations include activities associated with transport, communication, trade and commerce, services etc.

Health – There have been significant improvements in the health conditions of the Indian population due to concerted effort of the government. These achievements were made possible as a result of many factors including improvement in public health, prevention of infectious diseases and application of modern medical practices.

National Population Policy – The National Population Policy (NPP) 2000 is a culmination of years of planned efforts of the government. The NPP 2000 provides a policy framework for imparting free and compulsory school education up to 14 years of age, reducing infant mortality rate, universal immunization of children against all vaccine preventable diseases, delayed marriage for girls and making family welfare a people centred programme.

Adolescent Population – The age group between 10 to 19 years belongs to adolescents. The size of Adolescent Population is fairly large in India. It constitutes about one – fifth of the total population. They are the most important future resources of the country and are vulnerable. Therefore special attention is important for this age group.

NPP 2000 and Adolescent - National Population Policy 2000 identified adolescents as under – served population group that needs great attention. In addition to nutritional requirements, the policy stresses greater emphasis on other important needs of adolescents which include protection from unwanted pregnancies and sexually transmitted diseases, education etc.
