

Study Notes

Population size and distribution:

India's population size & distribution by numbers:

- As of March 2011, India's population was 1,210.6 million which accounts for 17.5% of the world's population.
- Uttar Pradesh is the most populous state of India as it counts about 16% of the country's population.
- Almost half of India's population lives in just five states which are Uttar Pradesh, Maharashtra, Bihar, West Bengal & Andhra Pradesh.

India's population distribution by density:

→ Population density is calculated as the number of persons per unit area. The population density of India in the year 2011 was 382 persons per sq. km. That's why India is considered one of the most densely populated countries in the world.

Population growth and processes of population change

→ The numbers, distribution and composition of the population are constantly changing. This is the influence of the interaction of the three processes:

1. Birth
2. Death
3. Migration.

Population growth:

→ Growth of population refers to the change in the number of inhabitants of a country / territory during a specific period of time. This change can be expressed in 2 ways:

1. In terms of absolute numbers: The absolute numbers are obtained by subtracting the earlier population (that of 2001) from the later population (that of 2011).
2. In terms of percentage period change per year: It is studied in percent per annum, a rate of increase of 2 percent in a population.

This referred to as the annual growth rate!

Process of population change / growth.

Three main processes of change of population are:

- 1) Birth Rate - Birth rate is the number of live births per thousands in a year. In India, birth rates have always been higher than death rates.
- 2) Death rates: Death rate is the number of deaths per thousand persons in a year.
- 3) Migration: Migration is the movement of people across regions & territories. Migration can be internal (within the country) or international (between the countries). It influences the distribution of population within the nation. In India, the rural-urban migration has resulted in a steady increase in the percentage of population in cities & towns.

Important questions

Q1. Name the organisations which provide us with information regarding the population of our country.
→ The census of India

Q2. State the position of India in terms of population size.

→ Second position.

Q3. State the total population of India according to the 2011 census.

→ ~~1,210,854~~, 1.21 crore.

Q4. Which is the

(i) most populous state of India?

→ Uttar Pradesh

(ii) the least populous state of India?

→ Sikkim

Q5. State the total percentage which India accounts to the total population of the world?

→ ~~22.4 percent~~ 16.7%.

Q6. What is the India's share in the total area of the world?

→ 2.4%

Q7. What is the annual growth rate of population of India?

→ ~~Bangladesh~~

Q8. Which is the most populated country, in terms of population size?

→ China

Q9. Which is the most densely populated country of the world?

→ Bangladesh.

Q10. How would you define the term 'density of population'?

→ The number of ~~ind~~ individuals living ~~with~~ the within that specific location.

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