



**POPULATION GROWTH - A BOON OR BANE:  
AN ECONOMIC OUTLOOK**

Edited by  
**Dr. S. Theenathayalan**  
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# POPULATION GROWTH - A BOON OR BANE: AN ECONOMIC OUTLOOK

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## POPULATION GROWTH IN INDIA - A STUDY

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### Abstract

Population was one of the most important contributory factors in the 'early development countries. Increasing population provided additional hands to work and additional pockets to buy the newly produced goods. However, beyond a point, the additional population becomes a drain on our economy's limited resources, more so particularly in the case of underdeveloped

countries. India is the second largest country in the world in terms of the size of population. Rapidly increasing population of India is a result of prevailing high birth rates and a large decline in the death rate in our country. This Paper highlights the population growth during different periods with its causes.

**Keywords:** Population, Birth Rate & Death Rate

### Introduction

Man is the creator of all the wealth, said Karl Marx, and without man, all other resources remain idle. Thus, man is the central focus point of all development efforts. Man produces Health and wealth is produced for the use of mankind. Hence, population of a country is a crucial factor in the development of its economy. Population was one of the most important contributory factors in the 'early development' of Western countries. Increasing population provided additional hands to work and additional pockets to buy the newly produced goods.

However, beyond a point, the additional population becomes a drain on our economy's limited resources, more so particularly in the case of underdeveloped countries. It further depresses the existing low levels of living, leaves no scope for capital formation and adds to ever-growing stream of the unemployed. Hence, the rate of population growth has to be kept under check to achieve any meaningful progress in the overpopulated underdeveloped countries.

### Causes for High Birth Rate

- The practice of early marriage is one of the main causes of the rapid increase in population. This gives wider reproductive period.
- Poverty of the masses in poor villagers is the another reason.
- India's tropical climate making for earlier puberty, her joint family system, the institution of polygamy is also responsible for rapid growth of population.
- Lack of conscious family planning had also kept birth rate in India very high.





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