Population, Problem or prospect

What is population problem

- The population of a country is an asset. It becomes a problem when the country cannot afford to give people the basic necessary of life.
- The current population of Bangladesh is 167,082,195 based on Worldometer elaboration of the latest United Nations data.
- Every year more than two million people are being added to our population
- The present growth rate of the population in Bagladesh is 1.37%

Causes of Population

1. Early marriage
2. Expecting male children
3. High risk of disasters
4. Poverty
5. Polygamy
6. Geographical condition
7. Illiteracy
8. Superstition
9. Diseases
10. Migration
11. Child mortality

Disadvantages of Population

1. Poverty, Food security
2. Illiteracy
3. Disease
4. Failure in agriculture/Land cricise
5. Unemployment
6. Crime
7. Pollution, energy use
8. Slum area
9. Habitat loss
10. Water scarcity
11. Changing age structure

Solution

1. Women empowerment
2. Awareness
3. Stopping early marriage and polygamy
4. Green revolution
5. Human resource development
6. Employment opportunity
7. Role of media
8. Reducing infant mortality
9. Controlling illegal immigrant

Theory of population

1. The Malthusian Perspective

a) Causes of Population Growth

b) Consequences of Population Growth

c) Critic of Malthus

d) Neo-Malthusian

2. The theory of Demographic Transition Theory

a) Critic of demographic transition theory

- The Malthusian Perspective
- Thomas Robert Malthus was a British economist and demographer, whose famous theory of highlighted the potential danger of over population.
- In his famous book ‘An Essay on the Principles of population’ Malthus stated that while ‘the population of the world increase in geometric proportion the food resources available for them would increase only in arithmetic proportion.’
- In simple word, if human population was allowed to increase in an uncontrolled way, then the number of people would increase at a faster rate than the food supply. Than an imbalance would create between man and food production. Any further increase would lead to population crash caused by natural phenomena like famine or disease.

- Causes of Population Growth
- Man or human being naturally more productive. Malthus believed that human being are ‘impelled’ to increase the population, powerful ‘instinct’ the urge to reproduce.
- According to Malthus the ultimate check to growth is lack of food. The means of subsistence are limited by the amount of land available, the ‘art’ or technology that could be applied to the land and ‘social organization’ or land ownership patterns.
- Malthus was aware that starvation rarely operates directly to kill people, since something else usually intervenes to kill them before they actually die of starvation.
- There are two types of check. 1) Positive Check 2) Preventive Check

1. Positive Check
   - Moral and physical nature which tend prematurely to weaken and destroy the human frame. In short, causes of mortality- disease, food shortage, natural calamities like femine, flood, war etc.
1. Preventive Check
   - Preventive checks would include all possible means of birth control including abstinence, contraception, abortion, moral restraint(Postpone marriage, remaining chaste), infanticide, or any ‘improper means’ (prostitution, sterilization, abortion).

- Consequences of Population Growth
- Malthus believed that a natural consequences of population growth was poverty.

1. Fulfilment of demand of labor
2. Would force wages down
3. Unemployment
4. Cultivator could employ more labors and increase the means of production.
5. Food problem
6. Increasing dependency
7. Lower standard of life
8. Housing problem

Criticism

1. Industrial revolution
2. Cultivation in scientific way
3. Growth of population
4. Quality of population
5. International trade and help
6. Proper distribution of wealth
7. Recreation and developed

Avoiding the Consequences

- Malthus suggested that well educated, rational person would perceive in advance the pain of having hungry children or being indebt and would postpone marriage and sexual intercourse until he was sure that he could avoid pain.
- He argued that if every man had to provide for his own children, he would be more prudent about getting married and raising a family.
- The Malthusian perspective that blamed the poor for their own poverty endures, contrasted with the equally enduring view of Godwin and Condor that poverty is the creation of unjust human institutions.

What is Migration?

Migration is defined as any permanent change in residence. It involves the detachment from the organization of activities at one place and the movement of the total round of activities at one place and the movement of the total round of activities to another.

The Push-Pull Theory

Migration is the movement of people from one place to another, often across geographical or political boundaries, with the intention of settling temporarily or permanently.

Push factors



- Population pressure
- Poor infrastructure
- Inadequate job offer
- Bad educational chances
- Poor health care
- Ecological problems
- Natural disasters
- Social compulsions

Pull factors



- Improvement in the standard of living
- Better health care and availability of services
- Varied employment opportunities
- Higher wages
- Quality of education
- No social compulsions
- Future prospects

Overpopulation

Causes

- Improvement in medical knowledge
- Decline in death rate
- Industrial and agricultural revolution
- Progress in food production
- Poverty
- Religious concerns
- Migration and urban concentration
- Immigration
- Family planning

Effects

- Environmental degradation
- Depletion of natural resources
- Wars
- Mortality
- Increase in crime rates
- Loss in biodiversity
- Increase in pollution
- Ecological collapse
- Water and food conflicts
- Overextensive farming
- Excessive use of fossil fuels
- Loss of arable land and desertification
- Antibiotic-resistant bacteria
- Increasing probability of epidemics
- Malnutrition and starvation
- Increasing costs of living and housing
- Rise in unemployment

Solutions

- Improvement of family planning
- Raising awareness on the topic
- Education
- Birth regulation
- Extraterrestrial settlement