Geographical Analysis Of Population Study In Sangli District Of Maharashtra

1.0 Introduction

Today, almost 7 billion people live on our earth. Each year, the world’s population grows by about 80 million. If it continues to grow at such a rate the world’s population will reach 9 billion by the year 2035. Human beings have been living on earth for over a million years, but for a long time there were not very many of them. The world’s population was never higher than 10 million. People died quickly because they didn’t have enough food to eat. Early inhabitants were mostly hunters and fishers. Some of them gathered berries from wild plants. After people started growing crops and raising animals they had more food and lived longer. World population is the number of humans living on Earth. This introduction unit describes how the world's population has grown over the centuries, where people live, the problems that countries have and the dangers of overpopulation.

When Jesus Christ was born about 2,000 years ago about 300 million people inhabited the earth. During the next 1500 years the population of the world grew very slowly. Many people died of illnesses and plagues. The Black Death, which sailors brought to Europe from Asia, killed about a third of the European population in the middle ages. The Industrial Revolution, which began in the middle of the 18th century, started a period of rapid population growth, especially in Europe. Farmers were able to grow more and more food because they had machines to work with. New kinds of medicine helped to fight off many diseases that had killed millions of people in the centuries before. Humans also lived longer because they had cleaner drinking water.

Birth rates started to go up because families had many children. More babies than ever before survived the first few years of childhood. The one billion marks was reached in the early 1800s. In the next one hundred years the population doubled to 2 billion, and in 1960 there were 3 billion people living on earth. In the last 30 years the world’s population has doubled. The fastest growing region, Africa, has a growth rate of 2.8 %, the slowest growing region, Europe, about 0.3 %. On average, the world’s population is growing at a rate of 1.5 % per year. Population density tells us how many people live on one square kilometer of land. The
The world’s population is not spread evenly over the continents. Asia and Europe are the most densely populated continents. Many other areas of the world, like deserts, polar regions or high mountains are very sparsely, or not at all populated.

About 90% of the earth’s people live on only 10% of the land. Most of them live north of the equator because two thirds of the earth’s landmasses are there. Many people also live near coastal regions. In China, for example, 80% of the country’s inhabitants live in the eastern part of the country near the coast. In South America, most people live in the big cities, which all lie in coastal areas. There are many reasons why people live in certain places. Areas with moderate temperatures and enough rainfall are densely populated, because people find good farming conditions there. Raw materials also attract groups of people. North-western Germany and parts of England are densely populated because coal is mined there. Economic reasons also play an important role in choosing where to live. People go to places where they can find jobs and where the economy is strong.

In industrialized countries the growth of cities has stopped. New York and London grew very quickly during the 1800s and early 1900s, but since then their growth has slowed down. African and Asian cities like Lagos, Bombay or Calcutta are growing rapidly and this will probably continue during the next years. About 40 cities around the world have a population of over 5 million. They are called megacities 80% of them are in poorer countries. In 1979 the Chinese government started its One Child policy because the population of the country was growing too fast. A married couple was only allowed to have one child. If families followed this government plan they would get free education, health care and money for their only child. However, families that had two or more children were punished. They had to pay for everything themselves and got no help from the government. They even had to pay more tax. To help control population growth, China allowed women to have free abortions and gave them birth control pills for free. The government’s plan also caused many problems for China. Parents often wanted to have a boy instead of a girl in order to carry on the family name. As a result female babies were often left on the streets by their mothers and some were even killed. 90% of unborn babies that are aborted are female.

The situation of women in our world today is very important. There are many differences between richer and poorer countries. In industrialized countries birth rates have fallen since the
1960s. One reason is that more and more women have jobs and go to work. They do not want to stay at home any longer and have fewer babies. In developing countries the situation of women is different. Many of them are at home, do the household chores and care for their children. Helping women in the Third World is very important and can slow down the population explosion. One of the key factors is education. Women who go to school and maybe later on study at a university have higher chances of getting a job.

We need more and more people who care for the elderly. This means building more old people’s homes and other care units. The government must spend more money on pensions. This won’t work if we don’t have enough young people who have jobs and pay taxes. More and more people have to work up to 65 and longer. They take away jobs that young adults need. An older labor force means that we are not as flexible and productive as countries that have young workers. The world’s population is growing by almost 80 million people every year. We will be facing many problems in the future: population growth is highest in developing countries. young people have to care for their parents and grandparents, so they have less money to buy the things that they need. They stay poor. Africa is the fastest-growing continent on earth, but its people are getting poorer and poorer. Every third person in Africa doesn’t have enough to eat. The average African family has about 5 children.

This population tends to rise in the summer months and decrease significantly in winter, as visiting researchers return to their home countries. It is estimated that the world population reached one billion for the first time in 1804. It would be another 123 years before it reached two billion in 1927, but it took only 33 years to reach three billion in 1960. Thereafter, the global population reached four billion in 1974, five billion in 1987, and six billion in 1999 and, according to the United States Census Bureau, seven billion in March 2012. The United Nations, however, estimated that the world population reached seven billion in October 2011.

According to current projections, the global population will reach eight billion by 2030, and will likely reach around nine billion by 2050. Alternative scenarios for 2050 range from a low of 7.4 billion to a high of more than 10.6 billion. Projected figures vary depending on underlying statistical assumptions and the variables used in projection calculations, especially the fertility variable. Long-range predictions to 2150 range from a population decline to 3.2 billion in the Low Scenario, to High Scenarios of 24.8 billion. One extreme scenario predicted a
massive increase to 256 billion by 2150, assuming the global fertility rate remained at its 1995 level of 3.04 children per woman; however, by 2010 the global fertility rate had declined to 2.52. There is no estimation for the exact day or month the world's population surpassed the one or two billion marks. The days of three and four billion were not officially noted, but the International Database of the United States Census Bureau places them in July 1959 and April 1974. The United Nations did determine, and celebrate, the Day of 5 billion on July 11, 1987, and the Day of 6 billion on October 12, 1999. The Day of 7 billion was declared by the Population Division of the United Nations to be October 31, 2011.

Archaeological evidence indicates that the death of around 90% of the Native American population of the New World was caused by Old World diseases such as smallpox, measles, and influenza. Over the centuries, the Europeans had developed high degrees of immunity to these diseases, while the indigenous peoples had no such immunity. Urban areas with at least one million inhabitants in 2006. Only 3% of the world's population lived in cities in 1800; this proportion had risen to 47% by 2000, and reached 50.5% by 2010 by 2050, the proportion may reach 70%. During the Agricultural and Industrial Revolutions, the life expectancy of children increased dramatically. The percentage of the children born in London who died before the age of five decreased from 74.5% in 1730–1749 to 31.8% in 1810–1829. Between 1700 and 1900, Europe’s population increased from about 100 million to over 400 million. Altogether, the areas of European settlement comprised 36% of the world's population in 1900.

The first half of the 20th century in Russia and the Soviet Union was marked by a succession of wars, famines and other disasters, each accompanied by large-scale population losses. By the end of World War II in 1945, the Russian population was about 90 million fewer than it could have been otherwise. In recent decades, Russia's population has declined significantly – from 148 million in 1991 to 143 million in 2012 – and may sink as low as 107 million by 2050, if current demographic trends continue. Many countries in the developing world have experienced rapid population growth over the past century. China's population rose from approximately 430 million in 1850 to 580 million in 1953, and now stands at over 1.3 billion. The population of the Indian subcontinent, which stood at about 125 million in 1750, reached 389 million in 1941; today, the region is home to over 1.22 billion people. The population of Java increased from about five million in 1815 to more than 130 million in the early 21st
century. Mexico's population grew from 13.6 million in 1900 to about 112 million in 2009. Between the 1920s and 2000s, Kenya's population grew from 2.9 million to 37 million.

The nominal 2011 gross world product was estimated at US$$70.16 trillion, giving an annual global per capita figure of around US$10,000. Around 1.29 billion people 18.4% of the world population live in extreme poverty, subsisting on less than US$1.25 per day; approximately 925 million people 13.2% are malnourished. In December 2011, there were around 2.26 billion global Internet users, constituting 32.7% of the world population. The Han Chinese are the world's largest single ethnic group, constituting over 19% of the global population, while the second-largest single ethnicity, the Bengali people, account for around 4.8%. By comparison, people of white European descent constitute between 12% and 13% of the world population. The world's most-spoken first languages are Mandarin Chinese.

The UN has issued multiple projections of future world population, based on different assumptions. From 2000 to 2005, the UN consistently revised these projections downward, until the 2006 revision, issued on March 14, 2007, revised the 2050 mid-range estimate upwards by 273 million. Using linear interpolation and extrapolation of UNDESA population estimates the world population has doubled, or will double, in the following years (with two different starting points). Note how, during the 2nd millennium, each doubling took roughly half as long as the previous doubling, fitting the hyperbolic growth model mentioned above. However, after 2025 it is unlikely that there will be another doubling of the global population in the 21st century. The scientific consensus is that the current population expansion and accompanying increase in usage of resources is linked to threats to the global ecosystem.

In 1798, the economist Thomas Malthus incorrectly predicted that continued population growth would exhaust the global food supply by the mid-19th century. In 1968, Paul R. Ehrlich reprised this argument in The Population Bomb, predicting mass global famine in the 1970s and 1980s. The dire predictions of Ehrlich and other neo-Malthusians were vigorously challenged by a number of economists, notably Julian Lincoln Simon. Agricultural research already under way, such as the Green Revolution, led to dramatic improvements in crop yields. Food production has so far kept pace with population growth, but neo-Malthusians point out that the Green Revolution relies heavily on petroleum-based fertilizers, and that many crops have become so genetically uniform that a crop failure could potentially have global repercussions. Food prices in
the early 21st century are rising sharply on a global scale, and causing serious malnutrition to spread widely.

The potential peaking of world oil production may test the critics of Malthus and Ehrlich, as oil is of crucial importance to global transportation, power generation and agriculture. In May 2008, the price of grain was pushed up severely by the increased cultivation of biofuels, the increase of world oil prices to over $140 per barrel. Global population growth, the effects of climate change, the loss of agricultural land to residential and industrial development, and growing consumer demand in the population centers of China and India. Food riots subsequently occurred in some countries across the world. However, oil prices then fell sharply, and remaining below $100/barrel until around 2010. Resource demands are expected to ease as population growth declines, but it is unclear whether rising living standards in developing countries will once again create resource shortages. Richard C. Duncan claims the that the world population will decline to about 2 billion around 2050—David Pimentel, professor of ecology and agriculture at Cornell University, estimates that the sustainable agricultural carrying capacity for the United States is about 200 million people; its population as of 2011 is over 310 million. In 2009, the UK government's chief scientific advisor, Professor John Beddington, warned that growing populations, falling energy reserves and food shortages would create a "perfect storm" by 2030. Beddington claimed that food reserves were at a fifty-year low, and that the world would require 50% more energy, food and water by 2030. According to a 2009 report by the United Nations Food and Agriculture Organisation (FAO), the world will have to produce 70% more food by 2050 to feed a projected extra 2.3 billion people.