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Human Resources

Lesson Plan

Contents

- ▶ An overview of human resources, their distribution, composition and changes
- ▶ Understanding the factors influencing human resources, their distribution, composition and changes

Objectives

- ▶ To understand what constitutes human resources and the changes it needs
- ▶ To learn the distribution of population, the factors affecting it and how it influences the environment
- ▶ To know about the changes that occur in population and the development of human resources
- ▶ To appreciate the variations in people, human resources and population distribution and change

Teacher's Aids

- ▶ Globe
- ▶ Pictures, charts, atlas and wall maps
- ▶ Blackboard
- ▶ Internet

Tips for Teacher

- ▶ Explain why human beings are a 'resource' and how they form an essential part of the environment and the strength and weakness of a nation.
- ▶ Also talk about demography—distribution, composition, changes and fluctuations in the population of nations and how they impact the nation.
- ▶ Explain each chart and map clearly to the class—especially the population pyramids of the three countries given: India, Kenya and Japan—in terms of birth and death rates and health care and nutrition.
- ▶ Compare maps showing density of population and literacy—emphasise why it becomes easier to extend food, health care and education to a population that is manageable in terms of numbers.
- ▶ Students should be encouraged to know places, locations and their placement on the maps.

■ Background and Reading

- ▶ Read the lesson aloud and explain, sharing the aids, etc., pausing to examine and explain the data in the boxes.
- ▶ Particularly focus on the demographic changes taking place around us.

Human Resources

- ▶ The most important resource—human beings can explore, develop and convert other resources into useful goods according to their abilities and demands.
- ▶ Therefore have to be educated and skilled—for development and economic progress of the country.
- ▶ Not evenly distributed on Earth—vary in education, age, sex, standard of living—pattern of population distribution is very important in geography.
- ▶ Concentration in those areas where environmental conditions suitable for habitation—2005 total population about 650 crores—60% in Asia—out of this 240 crores live in two countries of Asia: China and India—about 90% of the world's population lives in about 10% of the total land surface.

The Density of Population

- ▶ Density is the ratio of population to the land area: $\text{Density} = \frac{\text{Total population}}{\text{Land area}}$
- ▶ Number of people per square kilometre helps us know the pressure on the land—world density is 48 persons per sq km—actual distribution is far more complex.
- ▶ Based on density we study the world distribution as follows:
- ▶ The densely populated areas: Fertile river valleys and industrial areas—South and South-east Asia, Western Europe and Northeastern North America—rich in natural resources—countries with high density pockets.
- ▶ The sparsely populated areas: Hot deserts, cold polar regions, sandy and rocky deserts, equatorial forests—climatic conditions not suitable for economic activities—some settlements where mineral and power resources available.
- ▶ The moderately populated areas: Deltas of rivers, central parts of USA, temperate forests in Eurasia and Canada, tropical and temperate grasslands in parts of Australia and South America—moderately populated areas not found in continuous region—most people have migrated in these regions for economic reasons.
- ▶ More people live in countries in the Northern Hemisphere than the Southern—60% of world population in 10 countries: China, India, USA, Indonesia, Brazil, Pakistan, Russia, Bangladesh, Nigeria and Japan—total population of each is more than 100 million.

Factors Affecting the Distribution of Population

- ▶ Human beings settle where food, land and water are easily available—areas too hot or too cold do not suit them—hence population distribution uneven.

- ▶ Factors that collectively influence population distribution:

Topography

- ▶ Mountains, plateaus, hills – land for agriculture not available – climate not favourable – means of transport limited – irrigation not possible – therefore areas like Ganga valley more thickly populated than the Himalayas, Alps, Andes, etc.

Climate

- ▶ Extreme climatic conditions – too hot or too cold for comfort – not suitable for farming – hence hot deserts and polar regions sparsely populated – monsoon regions thickly populated.

Soils

- ▶ Fertile soils of river valleys or of volcanic origin more productive than others – suitable land for agriculture – support large number of people – densely populated.

Water

- ▶ Fresh water – basic need for humans, animals, plants – rivers important source – for domestic, agriculture, industrial and other purposes – river valleys densely populated – hot, dry areas sparsely populated.

Minerals

- ▶ Availability of minerals even in places with adverse climate attract people for settlement – hot and dry areas of Middle East, Alaska in North America have people due to mineral resources.

Industries

- ▶ Growth and development of industries attract people from surrounding areas for settlement – provide employment opportunities to many people permanently – Tokyo, Kolkata densely populated due to industries.

Development of Transport

- ▶ People settle in distant places if transport facilities are well developed – adequate and efficient transport network – areas generally thickly populated – increases economic activity.

Cultural Factors

- ▶ Places with religious and cultural activities attract people – Haridwar, Ajmer, Amritsar, Jerusalem, the Vatican City, etc.

Population Change

- ▶ Total number of people in a country or region is not fixed – change in the number in a particular place during a specific time is called population change.

- ▶ Populations can increase or decrease due to several factors—called components of population change—main components are birth rate, death rate and migration.
- ▶ Up to AD 1800—steady, slow growth of population—about 100 crores in 1820.
- ▶ In 1970—about 300 crores—in 130 years it increased three times.
- ▶ In 2000—in just 30 years the total world population was about 600 crores.
- ▶ Thus, a consistent and rapid increase of population.
- ▶ Birth rate: The total number of live births per 1000 population in a year.
- ▶ Death rate: The total number of deaths per 1000 persons in one year.
- ▶ Natural growth: If birth rate is more than the death rate in an area.
- ▶ Decrease in population: If death rate is more than the birth rate.
- ▶ Migration: The movement of people in and out of a particular area.
- ▶ People move from one part of the country to another or from one country to another—usually in search of work, better employment—large-scale migration from underdeveloped countries to developed countries.
- ▶ Immigrants: Those who come into a region or country.
- ▶ Emigrants: Those who leave a country or region for another.
- ▶ In early stages [before AD 1800] birth rate was very high and so was death rate—due to lack of health care facilities—total production of food was also not enough to provide for all—hence slow rate of growth.
- ▶ Later stages fast growth of population—decline in death rate and improved food and health care available; birth rate remained high.
- ▶ Uneven rate of increase or decrease in population in different countries—variation depends on facilities available in the concerned country—some have adopted family planning schemes—restricting the number of children—developed countries are making a sincere effort to check growth of population.

Population Composition

- ▶ Population and its density has no link with level of economic development—for example, Japan and Bangladesh have very high density of population, but Japan is highly developed while Bangladesh is backward.
- ▶ Total number of people is not important—the quality of people is important—population composition—knowledge of the age, sex, literacy level, health condition, occupation, income level, etc.
- ▶ Population or age-sex pyramid—simple way to know about the population composition—shows the age and sex composition of the population—shape of the pyramid gives information about the economic and social conditions of that country.
 - Three age groups: 0-14 [children]; 15-64 [adults]; above 65 [old people].
 - According to sex: Divided into males and females.
 - Dependents: Children and old people.
 - Children at the base and old people at the top of the pyramid.

- ▶ Kenya: Birth rate and death rate constantly high–pyramid with a broad base–as people become older, pyramid narrows–fewer number of children reaching adulthood and old age–such country generally underdeveloped.
- ▶ Japan: Balance of birth and death rates–children reach adulthood and old age–death due to old age/natural causes–developed country with large number of adults–strong workforce–Japan, France, UK, etc.–pyramid narrow at base and may broaden in adult section–more old people.
- ▶ Economically active population comprises educated, skilled and ambitious adults who are an asset for a country.

Assessment Corner

Oral Assignment

- A. Ask for answers at random from the students. Confirm the right answers. Let them write down the correct answers if they like in their books.

Written Assignment

- B–D. The teacher has two options–(i) Either do these exercises orally first and then ask the students to write them down. OR (ii) Ask the students to write the answers on their own. Then the teacher can announce the correct answers to the students and they can ask their partners to cross-check them.

In either case, the answers can be written as homework and the teacher can check them in the class.

Think Tank

- E. **HOTS questions:** Discuss the questions in class and let the students write the answers to E and F as homework. Teacher should assess individual work.