# HUMAN RESOURCE

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People are a nations greatest resource. Nature's bounty only becomes significant only when people find it useful. It is people with their demands and abilities that turn them into 'resources'.

Hence, HUMAN RESOURCE is the ultimate resource.

Healthy, educated and motivated people develop resources as per their requirements.

- Human resources like other resources are not equally distributed over the world.
- They differ in their educational levels, age and sex.
- Their numbers and characteristics also keep changing.

## Distribution of Population

- The way in which people are spread across the earth surface is known as THE PATTERN OF POPULATION DISTRIBUTION.
- More than 90% of the world's population lives in about 10% of the land surface.
- The distribution of population in the world is extremely uneven.

- Some areas are very crowded and some are sparely populated –
- The crowded areas are –
   South and South East Asia, Europe and north eastern north America.
- Sparely populated
- People living in high altitude areas, tropical deserts, high mountains and areas of equatorial forests.

### Some facts -

- Many more people live north of the Equator than south of he equator.
- Almost three quarters of the world's people live in two continents of Asia and Africa.
- Sixty % of the world's people stay in just 10 countries. All of them have more than a 100 million people.

### **DENSITY OF POPULATION**

- \* Population density is the number of people living in a unit area of the earth's surface.
- \* It is normally expressed as per square km.
- \* The average density of population in the whole world is 45 persons per square km.
- \* South Central Asia has the highest density of population followed by East and South East Asia.

## FACTORS EFFECTING DISTRIBUTION OF POPULATION

### GEOGRAPHICAL FACTORS -

Topography - people always prefer to live on plains rather than mountains and plateaus because these are the areas suitable for farming, manufacturing and service activities. The Ganga plains are the most densely populated areas of the world while mountains like the Andes, Alps and the Himalayas are sparsely populated.

#### Climate -

People usually avoid extreme climates that are very hot or very cold like Sahara desert, polar regions of Russia, Canada and Antarctica.

### Soil -

Fertile soil provide suitable land for agriculture. Fertile plains such as Ganga and Brahmaputra in India, Hwang-He, Chang Jiang in China and the Nile in Egypt are densely populated.

#### Water -

People prefer to live in the areas where fresh water is easily available. The river valleys of the world are densely populated while deserts have spare population.

#### Minerals -

Areas with mineral deposits are more populated. Diamond mines of South Africa and Discovery of oil in the middle east lead to settling of people in these areas.

## SOCIAL, CULTURAL AND ECONOMIC FACTORS

### **SOCIAL** -

Areas of better housing, education and health facilities are more densely populated e.g. Pune.

### CULTURAL -

Places with religious or cultural significance attract people. Varanasi, Jerusalem and Vatican City are some examples.

### ECONOMIC -

Industrial areas provide employment opportunities. Large umber of people are attracted to these areas. Osaka in Japan and Mumbai in India are two densely populated areas.

## **Population Change**

- Population change refers to change in the number of people during a specific time. The world population has not been stable.
- The population has increased manifold due to various reasons
  - The change in the birth rate and the death rate
  - Major reasons for the increase in the birth rate are as follows
    - Better food supplies.
    - Better medical facilities.

BIRTHS ARE USUALLY MEASURED USING THE 'BIRTH RATE i.e. THE NUMBER OF LIVE BIRTHS PER 1,000 PEOPLE.

DEATHS ARE USUALLY MEASURED USING THE 'DEATH RATE' i.e. THE NUMBER OF DEATHS PER 1,000 PEOPLE.

## Births and Deaths are the natural causes

of population change. The difference between the birthrate and death rate of

a country is called the NATURAL GROWTH RATE.

The population increase in the world

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### Migration

- Migrations is the movement of people in and out of an area.
- Migration is another way by which population size changes. People may move within or between countries.
- EMIGRANT People who leave a country.
- IMMIGRANTS People who arrive in a country

## Patterns of population change

- Rates of population growth vary across the world. Although, the world's total population is rising rapidly, not all countries are experiencing this growth.
- Some countries like Kenya have high population growth rates. They had both high birth rates and death rates.
- Now, with improving health care, death rates have fallen, but birth rates still remain high leading to high growth rates.

## **Population Composition**

To understand the role of people as a Resource we need to know about their qualities.

People vary greatly in their -

- Age.
- Sex.
- Literacy level.
- Health condition.
- Occupation.
- Income level.

- POPULATION COMPOSITION refers to the structure of population.
- The composition helps us to know
- How many are males or females.
- Which age group they belong to.
- How educated they are.
- What type of occupations they are employed in.
- What their income levels and health conditions are.

An interesting way of studying the population composition of a country is by looking at the population pyramid, also called an Age-Sex Pyramid.

### A POPULATION PYRAMID SHOWS

- The total population divided into various age groups, e.g., 5 to 9 years, 10 to 14 years.
- The percentage of the total population, subdivided into males and females, in each of those groups.
- How many dependents are there in the country

There are two groups of dependents -

- a) Young dependents
- b) Elderly dependents

Skilled, spirited and hopeful young people endowed with a positive outlook are the future of any nation. We in India are fortunate to have such a resource. They must be educated and provided skills and opportunities to become able and productive.

