

Population

10.36 India accounts for 2.4 per cent of the world surface area of 135.79 million square kms and 16.7 per cent of the world population. According to the provisional results of Census of India 2001, the population of India as on 1st March 2001 was 531 million males and 496 million females (Box-10.5) India is thus the second country in the world after China to cross the one billion mark. It is now estimated that by 2050, India will most likely overtake China to become the most populous country on the earth with 17.2 per cent population living here (UN Population Division, World Population Prospects: The 1998 Revision) The United Nations has estimated that world population grew at an annual rate of 1.4 per cent during 1990-2000, China registering a much lower annual growth rate of population of 1 per cent as compared to that for India, at 1.93 per cent during 1991-2001.

10.37 The National Population Policy (NPP) 2000 outlines the long-term objective as one "to achieve a stable population by 2045, at a level consistent with the requirements of sustainable economic growth, social development, and

environment protection." The medium-term objective of NPP is to bring down the Total Fertility Rate (TFR) to the replacement level of 2.1 by 2010. Though in absolute terms, 180.6 million persons have been added to the population during 1991-2001, the net growth in population has witnessed a declining trend over the decades starting from 1961. The decadal growth of population at 21.34 per cent between 1991-2001, (Table.10.14) witnessed the sharpest decline since independence with the average growth rate for the corresponding period declining to 1.93 per cent per annum. This indicates that the country is entering a phase of rapidly declining fertility in the process of demographic transition. States registering low growth rates in population during 1991-2001 are Kerala, Tamil Nadu, Andhra Pradesh. States which have shown an upward swing in population growth rates during this period are Bihar, Haryana, Uttar Pradesh, Sikkim, Nagaland, Delhi, Chandigarh and Gujarat.

10.38 The demographic profile across States reveals that 9 States and Union Territories including Kerala, Tamil Nadu and Punjab are reported to have already reached the replacement level of fertility. These States account for about

BOX 10.5

Census of India 2001

	Male	Female	Persons
Population	531,277,078	495,738,169	1,027,015,247
Growth over 1991 (per cent)	20.93	21.79	21.34
Literates			
Absolute	339,969,048	226,745,947	566,714,995
Per cent	75.85	54.16	65.38
Density of Population (per sq. km.)		324	
Sex Ratio (females per 1,000 males)		933	

Note:

2001 Census Population figures for entire Kachchh District, Morvi, Maliya-Miyana and Wankaner Talukas of Rajkot District, Jodiya Taluka of Jamnagar District of Gujarat State and entire Kinnaur District of Himachal Pradesh have been estimated since population enumeration could not be conducted due to natural calamities.

For working out Density of population of India, the entire area and population of those portions of Jammu & Kashmir which are under illegal occupation of Pakistan and China have not been taken into account.

Source: Census 2001

15 per cent of total population. Another 10 States with about 41 per cent of the country's population are likely to achieve replacement rates by 2010. The remaining 11 States and UTs which account for about 44 per cent of the country's population and include the more populous States like Uttar Pradesh, Rajasthan, Bihar, Madhya Pradesh may not achieve replacement rates of fertility by 2010. (Source: Fertility Estimates of the National Commission on Population).

10.39 Along with the implementation of the National Population Policy involving all social sector programmes, the State Governments have an important role to play in improving the social, economic and demographic indicators specially in the high fertility regions. Formulation of State level Population Policies is already under way and effective implementation of population stabilisation efforts in concerned States would determine the year and size of the population at which the country achieves demographic stabilisation.

10.40 The density of population has increased steadily from 117 in 1951 to reach 324 person per sq. km in 2001. The persons living in per sq.km increased by 57 in absolute terms, i.e. by 21.3 per cent, during 1991-2001. (Table.10.14). Among major states West Bengal (904) is the most thickly populated, followed by Bihar (880), Kerala (819), Uttar Pradesh (689), Punjab (482), and Tamil Nadu (478). Regionwise the Eastern region has the highest density and the North Eastern region, the lowest.

10.41 The sex ratio for the country as a whole was at 933 females per 1000 males as per Census 2001. Though this constitutes some improvement over the sex ratio of 927 recorded in 1991, the long-term trend has been a declining one, which has been accentuated since the decade ending 1971, when a decline of 11 points was registered. Thereafter, it has hovered around 930 in successive Censuses. Across countries, the sex ratio in USA, Indonesia, Russian Federation and Japan has always remained above unity for the

TABLE 10.14

Population Growth (1951-2001)

Census Years	Population (in million)	Decadal Growth (per cent)	Average Annual Growth (per cent)	Density (Per Sq.km.)	Sex Ratio (females per 1000 males)
1951@	361.09	13.31	1.25	117	946
1961@	439.23	21.64	1.96	142	941
1971	548.16	24.80	2.20	177 \$	930
1981*	683.33	24.66	2.22	216 ^	934
1991**	846.39	23.86	2.14	267 ^	927
2001***	1027.02	21.34	1.93	324 ^	933

Note:

@. For decadal growth, Population of Tuensang District for 1951 and for Tuensang and Mon Districts for 1961 of Nagaland not taken into account as these areas were censused for the first time in 1951 and the same are not comparable.

* 1981 Census Population figures for Assam arrived at by interpolation

** 1991 Census Population figures for Jammu & Kashmir arrived at by Interpolation

*** 2001 Census Population figures for entire Kachchh District, Morvi, Maliya-Miyana and Wankaner Talukas of Rajkot District, Jodiya Taluka of Jamnagar District of Gujarat State and entire Kinnaur District of Himachal Pradesh have been estimated since population enumeration could not be conducted due to natural calamities.

\$. Jammu & Kashmir excluded since comparable figures of areas and population not available for the state

^. Density worked out on comparable data.

For working out Density of population of India, the entire area and population of those portions of Jammu & Kashmir which are under illegal occupation of Pakistan and China have not been taken into account.

Source: Census 2001

last half a century; Bangladesh, China and Pakistan have also shown improvements in this parameter. The States, that have recorded a decline in the overall sex ratio, are Uttar Pradesh, Bihar, Jharkhand, Orissa, Chhatisgarh, Madhya Pradesh and Tamil Nadu (Table at Appendix). The sex ratio in Punjab, though low, has shown a long-term upward trend and in Rajasthan the ratio has remained low. West Bengal has seen an upward swing to reach 934 in 2001. Only Kerala and Pondicherry have above parity sex ratios of 1058 and 1001 respectively. The persistent tendency towards low sex ratios in India can be attributed to sex selective female abortions, neglect of the girl child, female infanticide, high maternal mortality etc.

10.42 In India, out of the total population of 1027 million as on 1st March 2001, about 742 million (72.2 per cent) live in rural areas and 285 million (27.8 per cent) live in urban areas. The net addition to the population over 1991-2001 was 113 million in rural areas and 68 million in urban areas. The percentage decadal growth of population in rural and urban areas in the decade ending 2001 was 17.9 and 31.2 per cent respectively. There was a net increase of 2.1 per cent in the urban population of the country during the preceding decade.

10.43 Urban Agglomerations/Cities having a population of more than one million have increased to 35 with Greater Mumbai the highest at 16.4 million, followed by Kolkata, Delhi, Chennai, Bangalore, Hyderabad, Ahmedabad, Pune, Surat, Kanpur and Jaipur, Lucknow and Nagpur etc. (Table 10.15)

10.44 For the first time, detailed data on slum areas in the country has been collected in Census 2001 particularly on cities/towns having a population of 50,000 or more based on 1991 Census. All the inhabitants of the areas which have been notified as slums by the State Governments under any legal provisions or even recognized by them have been accordingly considered as slum population for this purpose. Areas in cities/towns satisfying the usual criteria

for declaring an area as a slum have also been considered. 26 States/UTs have reported the presence of slum population covering 607 towns. 9 States/UTs viz Himachal Pradesh, Nagaland, Mizoram, Sikkim, Arunachal Pradesh, Manipur, Dadra and Nagar Haveli, Daman and Diu and Lakshdweep have not reported any slum population in their cities/towns. The total slum population in the country is 40.3 million comprising 22.6 per cent of the total urban population of cities/towns reporting slums. Some salient features of Slum data released as per the provisional results of Census of India 2001 are in Box 10.6

TABLE 10.15		
Urban Agglomerations/Cities having population of more than one million in 2001		
Rank in 2001	Urban Agglomeration/City (1,000,000+ Population)	Population 2001 (Persons)
1	Greater Mumbai	16,368,084
2	Kolkata	13,216,546
3	Delhi	12,791,458
4	Chennai	6,424,624
5	Bangalore	5,686,844
6	Hyderabad	5,533,640
7	Ahmadabad	4,519,278
8	Pune	3,755,525
9	Surat	2,811,466
10	Kanpur	2,690,486
11	Jaipur	2,324,319
12	Lucknow	2,266,933
13	Nagpur	2,122,965
14	Patna	1,707,429
15	Indore	1,639,044
16	Vadodara	1,492,398
17	Bhopal	1,454,830
18	Coimbatore	1,446,034
19	Ludhiana	1,395,053
20	Kochi	1,355,406
21	Visakhapatnam	1,329,472
22	Agra	1,321,410
23	Varanasi	1,211,749
24	Madurai	1,194,665
25	Meerut	1,167,399
26	Nashik	1,152,048
27	Jabalpur	1,117,200
28	Jamshedpur	1,101,804
29	Asansol	1,090,171
30	Dhanbad	1,064,357
31	Faridabad	1,054,981
32	Allahabad	1,049,579
33	Amritsar	1,011,327
34	Vijayawada	1,011,152
35	Rajkot	1,002,160
Total		107,881,836
Source : Census 2001, Office of the Registrar General, India		

Box 10.6

Salient Features of Slum Data Released As Per Census 2001.

- 607 towns have reported slums.
- Total Slum Population returned as per provisional results of Census of India 2001 was 40,297,341, comprising of 22.58 per cent of the total urban population of the cities/towns reporting slums.
- Largest Slum population was registered in Maharashtra (10.64 million).
- The largest proportion of slum population in Million plus cities was registered in Greater Mumbai (48.88 per cent) and the lowest in Patna (0.25 per cent).
- About 1 per cent of India's population live in the slums of Maharashtra.
- Around 6 per cent of Maharashtra's population live in slums of Greater Mumbai.
- Proportion of Slum Population of total population in Cities/Towns varied from 41.33 per cent to 1.81 per cent, the largest being Meghalaya (41.33 per cent) and lowest Kerala (1.81 per cent).
- Sex ratio, (i.e. number of females per thousand males) of the Slum Population varied from 1032 (Pondicherry) to 707 (Chandigarh). Kerala also returned high sex ratio (1029).
- Proportion of children (0-6) among slum population in Million Plus Cities was found to be highest in Jaipur (18.11 per cent) and lowest in Kolkata (9.35 percent).
- Literacy Rate among Slum population was found to be quite high, varying from 88.08 per cent (Meghalaya) to 55.46 per cent (Chandigarh). The Male Literacy Rate varied from 91.05 per cent (Meghalaya) to 65.59 per cent (Chandigarh). Female Literacy Rate was also found to be high varying from 85.11 per cent (Meghalaya) and Chandigarh (40.09 per cent).