

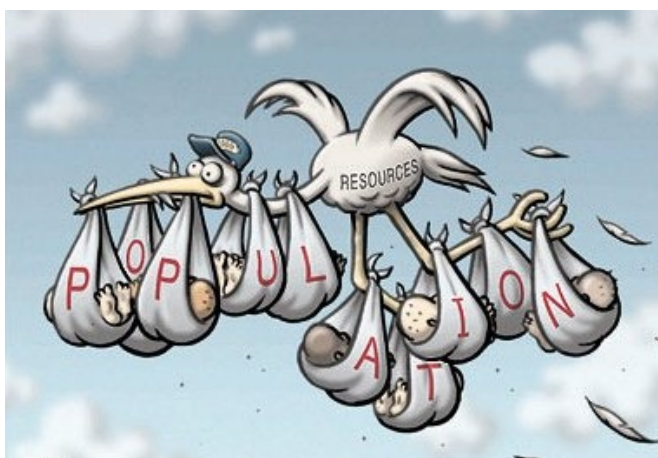


ENVIS CENTRE, CHANDIGARH

# NewsLetter

P a r y a v a r a n P a t r a

## Chandigarh State of Environment



### EDITORIAL

What is your basic need to live today? Are we limited only to food, shelter and clothes even now? Probably every answer would be relating to water, electricity and even communication means. It is matter of fact that the world population and its basic needs have changed and so are changed the demands and supply of natural resources. Environment has taken a huge hit catering the needs of various strata of society. While mortality rates are decreasing due to better health care still there are many who don't have access to family planning means. In context of Chandigarh, population has grown times fold in recent past. The toll of population growth has started leaving its impressions. It is high time to know about the population and its effects to plan the future of 'The City Beautiful'. Present newsletter is an attempt to sensitize the readers on the same.



Director, Environment

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## World Population Day

Every year, July 11<sup>th</sup> is observed as The United Nations' (UN) World Population Day. The United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) began observing this day in 1989 as a means to create awareness on the importance of family planning, maternal health, gender equality, poverty, and human rights. It is the right of every human being to decide the number and timing of their children, and this is the pervading sentiment of World Population Day.

### Theme of World Population Day 2011

The theme of World Population Day 2011, "Calling Attention to Urgent Global Issues" is a clarion call to governments, organizations, communities and individuals to understand population issues worldwide and spearhead

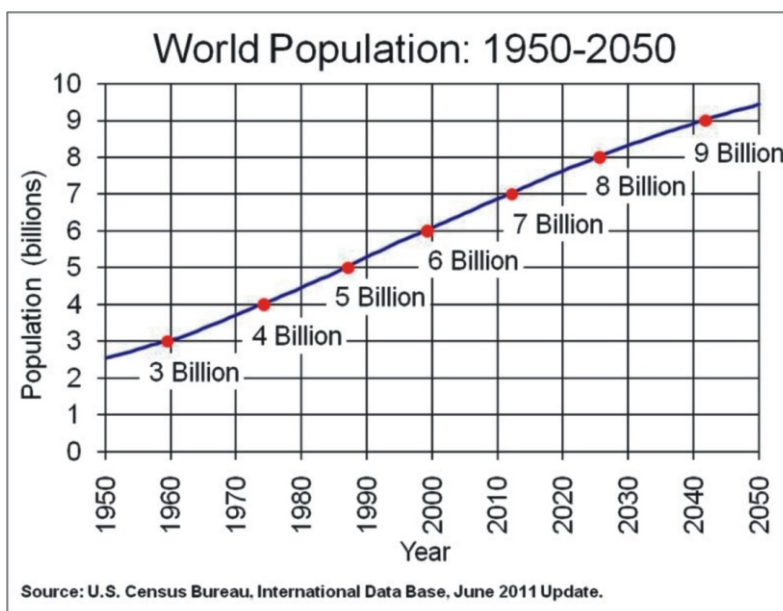


### Dismal reality

In 1968, world leaders took cognizance of the basic human right of family planning where every individual has the right to plan the size of their families and space their children. More than four decades later, many millions of women and men do not have access to modern contraceptive methods.

A burgeoning population undoubtedly sparks a host of problems related to hunger and malnutrition.

- ⊗ Alarmingly, one in twelve people worldwide is malnourished.
- ⊗ The World Bank says, 982 million people from developing nations sustain on a paltry \$1 a day or even less.
- ⊗ More than 500 million people from the Asian, African and Latin American countries live in abject poverty.
- ⊗ 15 million children die of hunger.
- ⊗ Starvation death occurs every 3.6 seconds.

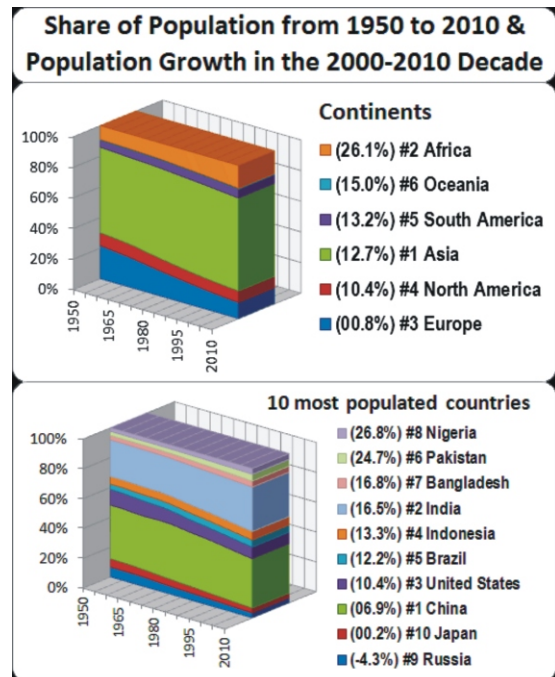


## Over Population

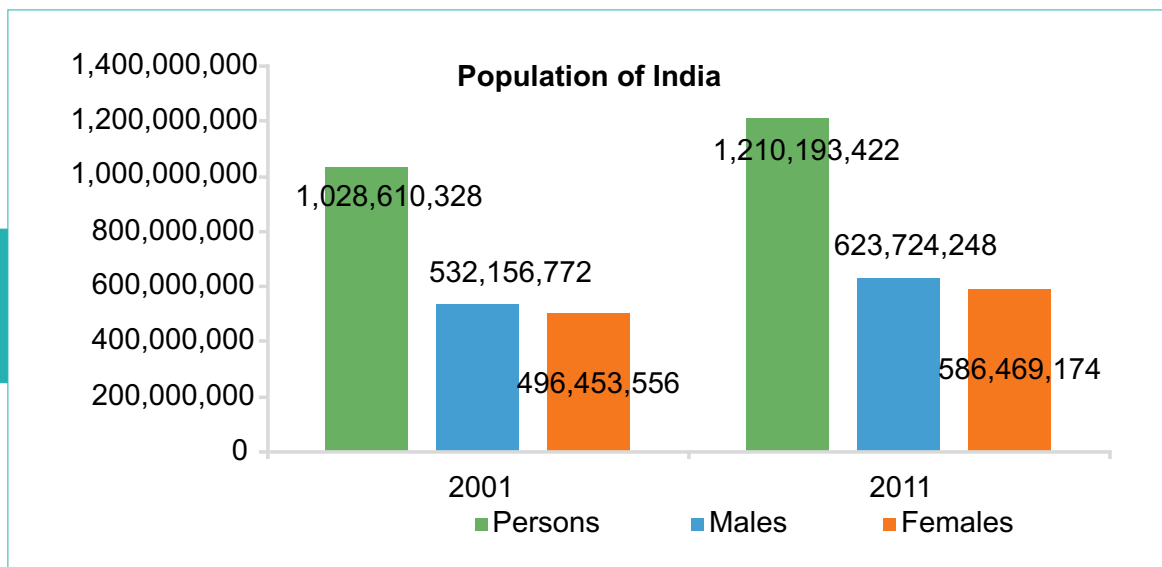
Overpopulation is a generally undesirable condition where an organism's numbers exceed the carrying capacity of its habitat. The term often refers to the relationship between the human population and its environment, the Earth, or smaller geographical areas such as countries. Overpopulation can result from an increase in births, a decline in mortality rates, an increase in immigration, or an unsustainable biome and depletion of resources. It is possible for very sparsely populated areas to be overpopulated if the area has a meager or non-existent capability to sustain life (e.g. a desert).

Most estimates for the carrying capacity of the Earth are between 4 billion and 16 billion. Depending on which estimate is used, human overpopulation may or may not have already occurred. Nevertheless, the rapid recent increase in human population is causing some concern. The population is expected to reach between 8 and 10.5 billion between the year 2040 and 2050. In May 2011, the United Nations increased the medium variant projections to 9.3 billion for 2050 and 10.1 billion for 2100.

The recent rapid increase in human population over the past three centuries has raised concerns that the planet may not be able to sustain present or larger numbers of inhabitants. Concern about overpopulation is relatively recent in origin. Throughout history, populations have grown slowly despite high birth rates, due to the population-reducing effects of war, plagues and high infant mortality. During the 750 years before the Industrial Revolution, the world's population increased very slowly, remaining under 250 million. By the beginning of the 19th century, the world population had grown to a billion individuals, and intellectuals such as Thomas Malthus and physiocratic economists predicted that mankind would outgrow its available resources, since a finite amount of land was incapable of supporting an endlessly increasing population.



Department of Economics and Social Affairs,  
United Nations Population Division (UNPD), 2010





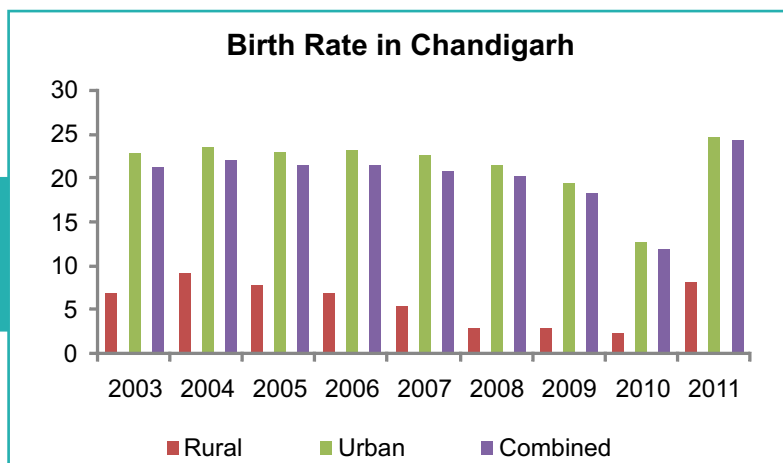
## Population in Chandigarh

Chandigarh was planned for a population of half-a-million. In Phase I, 36 sq km of land was acquired by the city administration for construction of 30 sectors. Land for seventeen additional sectors (Sector 31 to 47) was acquired and developed during the second phase to cater for a population of 350,000. The predominance of  $\frac{3}{4}$  storey apartments in the second phase provide for higher population dimension. However, Chandigarh has now grown beyond its planned capacity. Hence, development in the third phase has started in sectors 48 and beyond. Demographic data indicate that between 1961 and 1971, the population increased by 144.59 percent, one of the highest for urban areas in India. According to 1981 census, it grew by another 75.55 percent, followed by 42.16 percent in 1991 and by 40.33 per cent in 2001 (with a total population of 9,00,635). Population grew by 17.1 percent from 2001 to 2011. By 2021 the population of Chandigarh is projected to be around 19.5 lacs (at current rate of growth) almost four times for which it was originally built. Chandigarh is on the verge or may be called over populated already.

Year	Total	Male	Female	Decennial Rate of Growth
1961	119881	72576	47305	-
1971	257251	147080	110171	114.59
1981	451610	255278	196332	75.55
1991	642015	358614	283401	42.16
2001	900635	506938	393697	40.33
2011	1054686	580282	474404	17.1

Year	Rural	Urban	Combined
2003	6.91	22.79	21.17
2004	9.13	23.41	21.95
2005	7.84	23.01	21.45
2006	6.92	23.1	21.44
2007	5.41	22.51	20.75
2008	2.97	21.49	20.06
2009	2.99	19.44	18.2
2010	2.51	12.75	11.98
2011	8.17	24.6	24.15

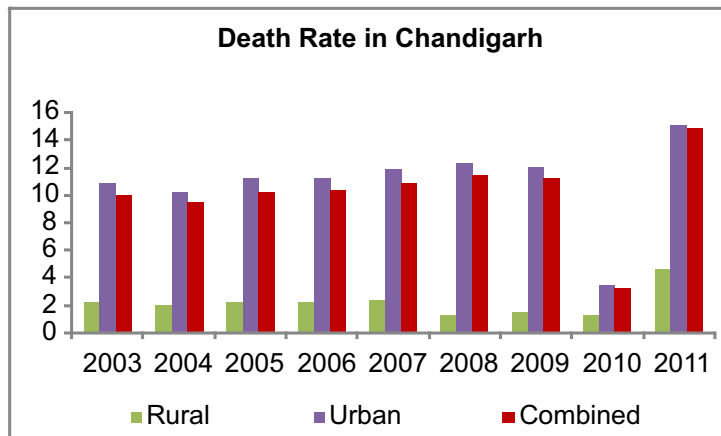
## Birth Rate in Chandigarh



## Population and Problems Associated

The InterAcademy Panel Statement on Population Growth has stated that many environmental problems, such as rising levels of atmospheric carbon dioxide, global warming, and pollution, are aggravated by the population expansion. Other problems associated with overpopulation include the increased demand for resources such as fresh water and food, starvation and malnutrition, consumption of natural resources faster than the rate of regeneration (such as fossil fuels), and a decrease in living conditions. However, some believe that waste and over-consumption, especially by wealthy nations, is putting more strain on the environment than overpopulation.

Limiting birth rates through legal regulations, educating people about family planning, increasing access to birth control and contraception, and extraterrestrial settlement have been suggested as ways to mitigate overpopulation in the future. China and other nations already have regulations limiting the birth rate, with China using the one child policy. Contraception is a response to the fact that nearly 40% of pregnancies are unintended and that in the poorest regions mothers often lack information and the means to control the size of their families.

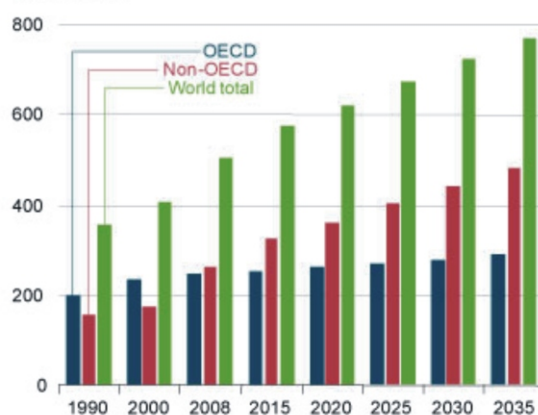


Year	Rural	Urban	Combined
2003	2.23	10.89	10.01
2004	1.95	10.22	9.37
2005	2.19	11.14	10.22
2006	2.2	11.19	10.26
2007	2.3	11.8	10.82
2008	1.17	12.29	11.43
2009	1.38	12	11.2
2010	1.22	3.39	3.23
2011	4.6	15.04	14.75

## Energy Consumption Projection

In the International Energy Outlook 2011 (IEO2011) Reference case, which does not incorporate prospective legislation or policies that might affect energy markets, world marketed energy consumption grows by 53 percent from 2008 to 2035. Total world energy use rises from 505 quadrillion British thermal units (Btu) in 2008 to 619 quadrillion Btu in 2020 and 770 quadrillion Btu in 2035 (Figure 1). Much of the growth in energy consumption occurs in countries outside the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (non-OECD nations) where demand is driven by strong long-term economic growth. Energy use in non-OECD nations increases by 85 percent in the Reference case, as compared with an increase of 18 percent for the OECD economies.

Figure 1 World energy consumption, 1990-2035 (quadrillion Btu)



<http://www.eia.gov/forecasts/ieo/world.cfm>

## EFFECTS OF HUMAN OVERPOPULATION

- ☹ Inadequate fresh water for drinking water use as well as sewage treatment and effluent discharge.
- ☹ Depletion of natural resources, especially fossil fuels.
- ☹ Increased levels of air pollution, water pollution, soil contamination and noise pollution. Once a country has industrialized and become wealthy, a combination of government regulation and technological innovation causes pollution to decline substantially, even as the population continues to grow.
- ☹ Deforestation and loss of ecosystems that sustain global atmospheric oxygen and carbon dioxide balance; about eight million hectares of forest are lost each year.
- ☹ Changes in atmospheric composition and consequent global warming.
- ☹ Irreversible loss of arable land and increases in desertification. Deforestation and desertification can be reversed by adopting property rights, and this policy is successful even while the human population continues to grow.
- ☹ Mass species extinctions from reduced habitat in tropical forests due to slash-and-burn techniques that sometimes are practiced by shifting cultivators, especially in countries with rapidly expanding rural populations; present extinction rates may be as high as 140,000 species lost per year. As of February 2011, the IUCN Red List lists a total of 801 animal species having gone extinct during recorded human history.
- ☹ High infant and child mortality. High rates of infant mortality are caused by poverty. Rich countries with high population densities have low rates of infant mortality.
- ☹ Intensive factory farming to support large populations. It results in human threats including the evolution and spread of antibiotic resistant bacteria diseases, excessive air and water pollution, and new viruses that infect humans.
- ☹ Increased chance of the emergence of new epidemics and pandemics. For many environmental and social reasons, including overcrowded living conditions, malnutrition and inadequate, inaccessible, or non-existent health care, the poor are more likely to be exposed to infectious diseases.
- ☹ Starvation, malnutrition or poor diet with ill health and diet-deficiency diseases (e.g. rickets). However, rich countries with high population densities do not have famine.
- ☹ Poverty coupled with inflation in some regions and a resulting low level of capital formation. Poverty and inflation are aggravated by bad government and bad economic policies. Many countries with high population densities have eliminated absolute poverty and keep their inflation rates very low.
- ☹ Low life expectancy in countries with fastest growing populations.
- ☹ Unhygienic living conditions for many based upon water resource depletion, discharge of raw sewage and solid waste disposal.
- ☹ Elevated crime rate due to drug cartels and increased theft by people stealing resources to survive.
- ☹ Conflict over scarce resources and crowding, leading to increased levels of warfare.
- ☹ Less personal freedom and more restrictive laws. Laws regulate interactions between humans. Law "serves as a primary social mediator of relations between people." The higher the population density, the more frequent such interactions become, and thus there develops a need for more laws and/or more restrictive laws to regulate these interactions. It was even speculated by Aldous Huxley in 1958 that democracy is threatened due to overpopulation, and could give rise to totalitarian style governments.



### **Dear Information Seeker,**

ENVIS CENTRE, Chandigarh furnishes you with the services to collect and disseminate information related to environment of Chandigarh. To share information with us you are requested to fill up the form given below.

Your feedback is valuable to us and will be highly appreciated



- Name \_\_\_\_\_
- Designation \_\_\_\_\_
- Department \_\_\_\_\_
- Address \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_ City \_\_\_\_\_
- State \_\_\_\_\_ Country \_\_\_\_\_ Pin 

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- Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Fax \_\_\_\_\_
- Email \_\_\_\_\_

### **Your views on scope of improvement :**

- Interest Area \_\_\_\_\_

### **I would like to have information on following :**



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#### Over Population and Environemnt

Overpopulation has substantially adversely impacted the environment of Earth starting at least as early as the 20<sup>th</sup> century. There are also economic consequences of this environmental degradation in the form of ecosystem services attrition. Beyond the scientifically verifiable harm to the environment, some assert the moral right of other species to simply exist rather than become extinct. During a remarkably short period of time, we have lost a quarter of the world's topsoil and a fifth of its agricultural land, altered the composition of the atmosphere profoundly, and destroyed a major proportion of our forests and other natural habitats without replacing them. Worst of all, we have driven the rate of biological extinction, the permanent loss of species, up several hundred times beyond its historical levels, and are threatened with the loss of a majority of all species by the end of the 21<sup>st</sup> century.

Peter Raven, former President of the AAAS

#### Excerpt from wikipedia

Even in countries that have both large population growth and major ecological problems, it is not necessarily true that curbing the population growth will make a major contribution towards resolving all environmental problems. However, as developing countries with high populations become more industrialized, pollution and consumption will invariably increase.

The Worldwatch Institute said the booming economies of China and India are planetary powers that are shaping the global biosphere. The report states:

The world's ecological capacity is simply insufficient to satisfy the ambitions of China, India, Japan, Europe and the United States as well as the aspirations of the rest of the world in a sustainable way

It said that if China and India were to consume as much resources per capita as United States or Japan in 2030 together they would require a full planet Earth to meet their needs. In the longterm these effects can lead to increased conflict over dwindling resources. Many studies link population growth with emissions and the effect of climate change.



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