



World Population Day

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Why in News

Recently, **Uttar Pradesh (UP)** unveiled its **New Population Policy 2021-30**, on the occasion of **World Population Day (11th July)**.

Key Points

- **About:**

- In 1989, the **United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)** recommended that **11th July be observed by the international community as World Population Day**, a day to focus attention on the urgency and importance of population issues.
- UNDP was inspired by the public interest and awareness that was created by **"Five Billion Day" on 11th July 1987** when the world's population reached 5 billion.
- A resolution to the effect was passed, and the day was first marked on **11th July, 1990**.
- The **United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA)** was created in 1969, the same year the United Nations General Assembly declared "parents have the exclusive right to determine freely and responsibly the number and spacing of their children.
- **Theme 2021: Rights and Choices are the Answer:** Whether baby boom or bust, the solution to shifting fertility rates lies in prioritising all people's reproductive health and rights.

- **U.P's New Population Policy:**

- The policy **proposes five key targets:** population control; ending curable maternal mortality and illnesses; ending curable infant mortality and ensuring betterment in their nutrition status; betterment of sexual and reproductive health-related information and facilities among the youth; and care of elders.
- The UP government's law commission has also **prepared a population control bill, under which a two-child norm will be implemented and promoted.**
- As per the draft, **violation of the policy is penalised** with measures such as barring for elections and **abidance is rewarded** with measures such as promotion in jobs, subsidy etc.

Future planning | The Uttar Pradesh Population Policy 2021-2030 was launched to reduce maternal and infant deaths in a time-bound manner. The policy aims to:



Baby steps: Yogi Adityanath encouraging a newly married couple to opt for family planning in Lucknow on Sunday. ▪

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Decrease the total fertility rate (number of children per woman) from 2.7 to 2.1 by 2026 and 1.7 by 2030 ▪ Increase modern contraceptive prevalence rate from 31.7% to 45% by 2026 and 52% by 2030 ▪ Increase male methods of contraception use from 10.8% to 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 15.1% by 2026 ▪ Decrease maternal mortality rate (per 1,00,000 live births) from 197 to 150 by 2026 and 98 by 2030 ▪ Decrease infant mortality rate (per 1,000 live births) from 43 to 32 by 2026 and 22 by 2030 ▪ Decrease under 5 mortality rate (per 1,000 live births) from 47 to 35 by 2016 and 25 by 2030
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 **Awareness and extensive programmes would be held among those communities, cadres and geographical areas that have a higher fertility rate**

U.P. POPULATION POLICY

 **We should not forget that the increase in population contributes to poverty in society. Hence, until all sections are made comprehensively aware, there will be a delay in fulfilling various goals**

YOGI ADITYANATH, UTTAR PRADESH CM

Population Trends & Issues

- **World Population:**

- **About:**

- World's population stands at about **7.7 billion, and it's expected to grow to around 8.5 billion in 2030**, 9.7 billion in 2050, and 10.9 billion in 2100.

- **Reason for Growth:**

- This dramatic growth has been driven largely by **increasing numbers of people surviving to reproductive age**, and has been accompanied by **major changes in fertility rates, increasing urbanization and accelerating migration.**

- These trends will have far-reaching implications for generations to come.

- **Affected Areas:**

- They affect **economic development, employment, income distribution, poverty and social protections.**
 - They also **affect efforts to ensure universal access to health care, education, housing, sanitation, water, food and energy.**

- **India's Population Related Issues:**

- **Large Size:**

- India has just **2% of the world's landmass and 16% of the global population.**
- It has been reported that **India will soon surpass China's population** (Country with largest population).

- **Fast Growth:**

Mismatch in birth and death rate resulted in **faster growth of population in the past few decades.**

- However, **India's Total Fertility Rate (TFR)** is declining. **It is now 2.2 per woman**, nearing the replacement rate of 2.1, according to the latest government data.
- **TFR** indicates the average number of children expected to be born to a woman during her reproductive span of 15-49 years.

- **Education and Population Growth:**

- **Poverty and illiteracy contribute immensely** to the population explosion.
 - Recent data shows that the **overall literacy rate in the country is about 77.7%.**
 - At the all-India level, the **male literacy rate is higher at 84.7% compared to 70.3% among women.**
- **Children** in rural areas are **considered as assets**, who will take care of parents at old age, also more children mean more earnings.
- The level of **female education has a direct impact on fertility**, as it is evidenced that the fertility rate of illiterate women tends to be higher than those who are literate.
- **Lack of education prevents women from having full knowledge about the use of contraceptives**, of the consequences of frequent childbirth.

- **Unemployment:**

- High youth **unemployment in India is turning demographic dividend into a demographic disaster for India.**
- This youth potential is often referred to as the 'demographic dividend' which means that **if the youth available in the country are equipped with quality education and skills training, then they will not only get suitable employment** but can also contribute effectively towards the economic development of the country.

Way Forward

- Family planning is an effective tool to ensure a stable rise in the population. The **government at all levels- Union, State and Local, citizens, civil societies as well as the businesses must take the onus to promote awareness** and advocate the sexual and reproductive rights of women and encourage the use of contraception.

- There is a **need for well-researched planning and implementation** on how to harness the population growth for the maximum economic benefit of the society and country.
- In order to have a better future for all on a healthy planet, attainment of the **Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)** related to poverty, gender equality, economic growth among others is critical.

Source: IE