

Q. Analyze the reasons for the tremendous growth of population in Assam in the Post - independence period. Do you think Assam is in a state of population explosion? Give reason in support of your answer. (7+3=10)

Ans. The size of population in Assam in the post - independence period is growing at an alarming pace. The high rate of growth of population in Assam depends on the factors related to birth rate, death rate and followed by migration of population from the neighbouring countries. The reasons for the tremendous growth of population in Assam in the post - independence period are as follows -

Decline in the death rate :-

The fall in the death rate is one of the fundamental causes of overpopulation. The death rate in Assam has been declining because of the following ~~two~~ reasons —

- 1) Owing to the advancements in medicine, man has found cures to the previously fatal diseases. The new inventions in medicines have brought in treatments for most of the dreadful diseases. This has resulted in an increase in the life expectancy of individuals.
- 2) Improvement of public health measures like drinking water supply, improved hygienic and sanitation facilities ~~also~~ is another factor that contribute to the sharp fall in death rate.
- 3) Moreover, in the present time, due to the absence of war

and famine, death rates decline.

- 4) Governments has also adopted various schemes for the welfare of the people. It leads to a fall in the death rate.

Rise in the birth rate :-

The ^{high} birth rate of population is very much influenced by the following factors —

- 1) Predominance of agriculture, universalisation of marriage, ~~and~~ early marriage, have resulted ~~in~~ a very high birth rate.
- 2) Lack of proper education is another important cause of population growth. Those lacking education fail to understand the need to prevent excessive growth of popⁿ. They are unable to understand the harmful effects that overpopulation has. They are unaware of the ways to control population.

Due to ignorance, there is ^{also} lack of family planning.

3) The another cause of high birth rate is religious and social superstitions.

4) Poverty is another cause of high birth rate. ~~Poor~~ Poor people ^{who have little or no knowledge about family planning} wished to have more ~~at~~ children to have better strength & socially and economically.

Migration :- Immigration :-

Immigration is one of the main reasons for rapid growth of population in Assam in the post-independence period. Assam is experiencing 3 types of immigration i.e. intra-state immigration, inter-state immigration and inter-country immigration.

A good number of people from Bangladesh and Nepal are migrating to Assam for better living, creating huge problem for the state. Thus, large ~~no-set~~ scale of migration of population ~~to~~ into Assam from the neighbouring countries causes high rate of increase in its size of population.

Assam has been passing through the stage of population explosion where its population is increasing at a very high speed. population explosion is a typical grave situation by a country where it experiences a high rate of growth of population but the economy of the country can not achieve a sizeable growth rate leading to a widespread poverty. This is the second stage of demographic transition where the country faces a high rate of growth of population due to its fall in the death rate and high birth rate.

Assam has one of the highest growth rates in population among the Indian States. In the ~~the~~

post-independence period, 1951-2011
the population of Assam ~~was~~
increased from 80.3 lakhs in 1951
to ~~20~~ 311.69 lakhs in 2011.

~~The~~ the Census report for 1961
revealed that while birth rate
in Assam remained around 49
person per thousand but the

death rate ~~is~~ was 26.9 per
thousand. In 1999-2000, the

birth rate in Assam was
16.36 per thousand, but
the death rate ~~remained~~
~~at~~ stood at 9.2 per thousand.

In 2011, the birth rate
in Assam was 22.8 per
thousand and the death
rate was 8 per thousand.

thus, it is seen that the
natural growth rate of
population ~~was~~ is very high
in Assam. But, the ^{Assam} economy

can not achieve ~~the~~ a sizeable
growth rate as compared to
the ~~popul~~ growth of population.

Therefore, we can say
that Assam is in a state of
population explosion.