**Socio-Economic Implications of Population Growth**

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It is found that economic development is slow where the population is increasing at faster rate. Rapid population growth lowers the living standards of people. Economic growth must significantly outpace population growth. Some countries have made progress in this area, many have not. Rapid population growth slows development, thus widening the gap between rich and poor people and nations. Improvement in the agricultural sector is of key importance for economic development. Unemployment is growing worse in less developed countries as the size of the working-age population increases. A result of unemployment in rural areas is urban overcrowding contributing to crime, alienation, etc. Population problem means the problem of fulfilling the basic needs like housing, food. Thus, the rapid population growth of population directly affects the economic, social and environmental development of a country. In this respect, various consequences of population growth are as follows:

Healthy mind and manpower are the pillars of development of a nation. People must be physically, socially and mentally healthy for the development of any nation. Thus, development of a nation depends upon the types and health condition of the manpower. Rapid population growth adversely affects the availability of health services and facilities. Health and services should be increased in the proportion to growing population. At present, health services and facilities is provided to only about twenty percent people of the total population of the country.

Education is an important need for everyone. Knowledge, skill and technology can be developing through the media of education. The skilled and specialized manpower is produced. It creates social, cultural and political awareness in people and makes them advanced. It helps in the complete development of man. But the high growth rate of population has had an adverse effect n the development of education.

Growing population brings changes in social values and beliefs, cultural behavior, traditions and customs of the society. It also affects the marriage patterns, festival, dresses, ornaments and thinking of the people. It attempts to bring in the western way of life which means deterioration of our culture. The young boys and girls are becoming immoral due to deterioration in our culture. They are attracted toward western culture which affects our culture badly. Therefore, in order to save our culture and cultural heritages, it is wise enough to control population growth of a country.

Rapid population growth creates problems of unemployment because manpower increases with the increase in population. It is not possible to provide job to all the people because government has limited resources and means and so it can create only limited opportunities. Educated people have not got job according to their qualifications. Agriculture is the main source of employment in our country but now agriculture land is decreasing due to human settlements. The soil has also loss its fertility and people are in search of better cultivable land.