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**THE CENSUS OF 2011:- POPULATION EXPLOSION
AND PROTECTION OF ENVIRONMENT**

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Index

Sr. No.	Contain	Page No.
1.	"लोकसंख्या वाढीचे पर्यावरणावरील परिणाम व उपाय " प्रा. अनंतकवळस एम्. बी.	1
2.	लोकसंख्या वाढ पर्यावरणावरील परिणाम व उपाय डॉ.आर.पी.भोसले	7
3.	'लोकसंख्या वाढ आणि पर्यावरण रक्षण' प्रा. भुजबळ एस.एम.	10
4.	"लोकसंख्या वाढीचे पर्यावरणावरील परिणाम आणि उपाय." प्रा. डी. जी. घट	18
5.	"Growth of Human Population and its Impact on Natural Environment" Prof. B. A. Tarhal, Prof.Dr. B.M. Waghmode	22
6.	Growth of Population and Environment Issues Sawant Sudhir Narayan, Chavan K. R.	28
7.	IMPACT OF RISING POPULATION ON THE ENVIRONMENT AND ITS CONSEQUENCES Dr. AVINASH V. KARNE	34
8.	रत्नागिरी जिल्ह्यातील लोकसंख्येचा भौगोलिक अभ्यास प्रा. कांबळे आर.डी. , प्रा.सौ.कांबळे ए.आर.	40
9.	"वाढत्या लोकसंख्येचे पर्यावरणावरील परिणाम आणि उपाय" प्रा. निकम एस.जी. , कोकरे कृष्णा विठ्ठल	45
10.	"लोकसंख्या वाढीचे पर्यावरणीय घटकांवर होणारे परिणाम" प्रा. कुंभार रामचंद्र वसंत	50
11.	लोकसंख्या वाढीचे पर्यावरणावरील परिणाम डॉ. शिवाजी उत्तम चवरे	53
12.	Census 2011: Facts and Figures of Maharashtra DR. Vijay M. Kumbhar	62
13.	POPULATION GROWTH IN INDIA AND ITS IMPACT ON ENVIRONMENT Prof. Sambhoji Shobha Shrishail	64
14.	भारतीय लोकसंख्यावाढीचे पर्यावरणावरील दुष्परिणाम श्री. निलेशकुमार एन. गुरव	69
15.	लोकसंख्येचा प्रस्फोट व पर्यावरणीय असमतोल — कारणे व उपाय प्रा. नलिनी पाचर्णे	75
16.	POPULATION AND ENVIRONMENT IN INDIA Dr. Bhosale S.M., , Mr. Dixit J.U.,	80
17.	लोकसंख्या वाढ आणि पर्यावरणीयसमस्या श्री. कारंडे रविंद्र विष्णु	88
18.	वाढत्या लोकसंख्येचे पर्यावरणावरील परिणाम व उपाय सहा. प्रा. पवार मनिषा सुरेश, सहा. प्रा. पोटभरे एस. एस.	95
19.	लोकसंख्या विस्फोट आणि पर्यावरण समस्या प्रा. पवार राजेंद्र बंडोबा	76
20.	AN IMPACT OF POPULATION GROWTH ON ENVIRONMENTAL DEGRADITION Ms.Rani Shinde, Dr. Arjun Wagh	104

POPULATION GROWTH IN INDIA AND ITS IMPACT ON ENVIRONMENT

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INTRODUCTION –

Population is an important source of development but it also major source of environmental degradation. There is an inverse relationship between the population and quality of the environment. If population of region increases quality of environment decreases. Population Growth is the Result of a Balance between Biotic Potential and Environmental Resistance. Population growth may be defined as the increase in the number of individuals in a population. In general a population will tend to increase in number when the available resources are greater than that required by the members of the population present at that particular time. As long as resources are available, every population has the tendency to grow exponentially. The term biotic potential refers to the highest rate of reproduction possible for a population under ideal conditions.

According to Thomas Malthus, in An Essay on the Principle of Population made the conclusion that the number of people in the world will increase exponentially, while the ability to feed these people will only increase arithmetically. The Malthus Growth model implies that in the absence of changes in technology or in the availability of land, the size of the population will be self-regulating. When population size is small, the standard of living will be high. There is a relationship between population and resources. The country is said to be over populated when its population is exceeded by its carrying capacity.

Human being consumes natural resources through their consumption of goods and services. This gives rise to emissions of carbon dioxide and other Green house gases. Production of goods and services ultimately depends on demand coming from increasing population. If production therefore utilization of natural resources and emission of pollution, will take place.

The rapid growing population is leading to a number of environmental issues in India because of the uncontrolled growth of industrialization, mechanization of agriculture and the destruction of forests. Population impacts on the environment primarily through the use of natural resources and production of wastes and is associated with environmental stresses like loss of biodiversity, air and water pollution and increased pressure on arable land.

POPULATION GROWTH IN INDIA –

India is the second most populous country in the world after China. The years 1901 to 1921, the population of India increased from 236 million to only 248 million. Thus only 12 million