

# POPULATION GROWTH AND ENVIRONMENTAL DEGRADATION: A CASE STUDY OF TRIBAL AREAS IN BILASPUR DISTRICT, CHHATTISGARH

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## Abstract

The present work deals with population growth and its impact on environmental degradation in tribal areas of Bilaspur district in Chhattisgarh. Tribal areas depended on food gathering, hunting and fishing and any others hunting based primary activities. Population growth is an important cause of poverty in the tribal areas of Bilaspur district. We can feel the firm relationship between population growth and environmental degradation. The pollution is caused by lack of conciseness and unscientific use of natural resources. If it may caused highly, the environmental degradation must be occurred. As deforestation is an example of this type of degradation. The overpopulation can falls on a bad impact on environment and it occurred the environmental degradation.

## Keywords

Soil erosion, Women's education, tribal population, population growth, environmental degradation,

## Introduction

Man is the main national resource of any country. Women play an essential role in the management of natural resources, soil, water, and forest and energy conservation. No nation can stand without education. Only women education can reduce gender gap.

The cause of early marriage and it has an active effect on the population growth. More educated mothers lead to multiplier effect on the quality of nations human resources for many generations to come tiger (Jalilior,p.). Whole the district of Bilaspur especially

## Objectives

Specific objectives behind this work are the following:

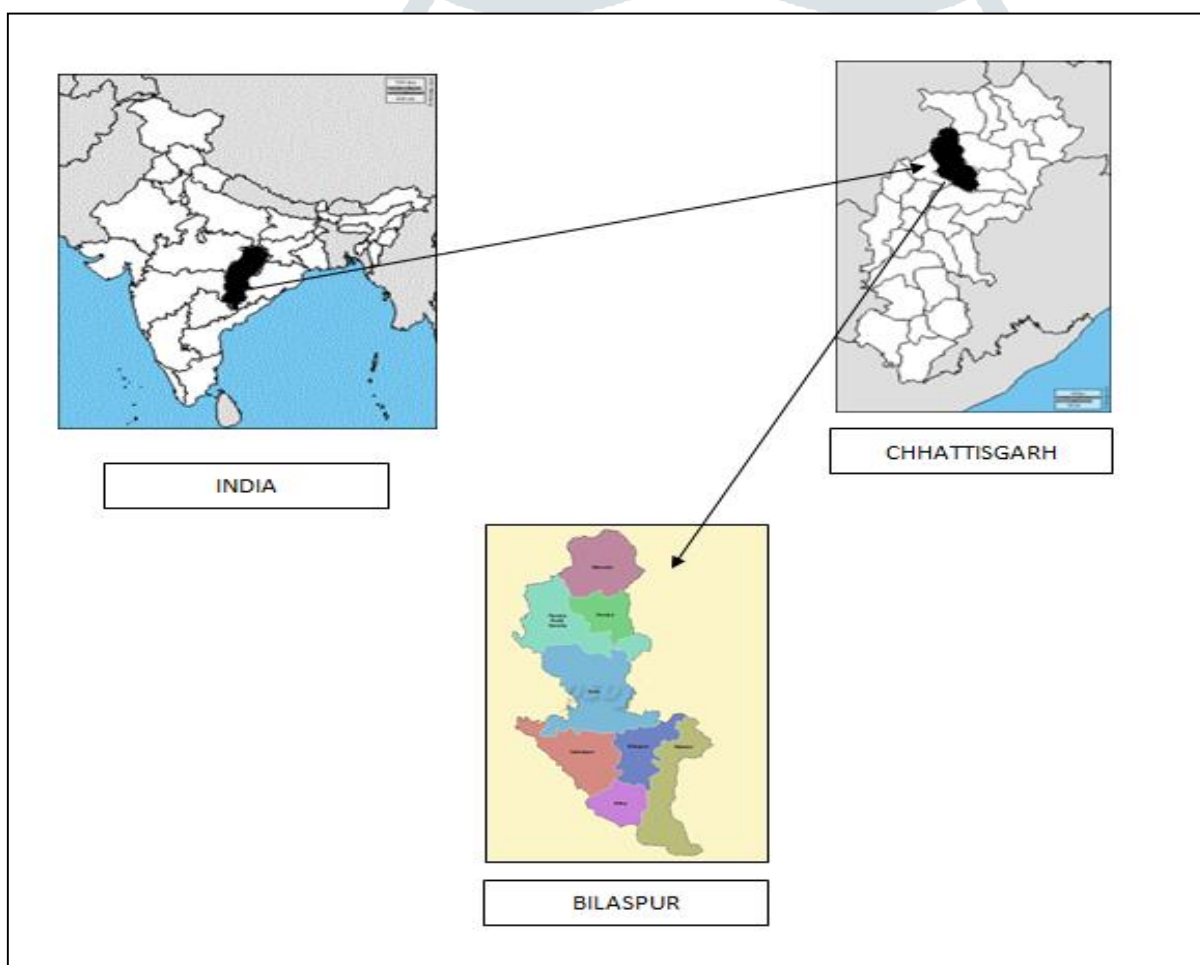
- To know the different types of causes of population growth.
- To know the different types of causes about the environmental degradation.

- To know the relationship between population growth and environmental degradation.
- To understand the importance of women's education to recover the degradation.

### Study Area.

Bilaspur district is situated in the western part of Chhattisgarh. The district also situated between  $21^{\circ}47'$  N to  $23^{\circ}08'$  North latitudes and  $81^{\circ}14'$  E to  $83^{\circ}15'$  East longitudes. It is bounded by Korea district on the North, Anuppur and Dindori districts of Madhya Pradesh state on the west, Mungeli on the South-West, Balod bazaar on the South and Kobra and Jangir-Champa districts on the East. Total area of the district is 8270 sq.kms. Marwahi, Pendra and Gaurella are the three tribal block in this district which were selected by me for the present study. Marwahi, Pendra and Gaurella are the three tribal blocks of this district.

### Location Map



### Data Base & Methodology

In order to understand the nature of relationship between women's education and environmental degradation of Bilaspur district on the base of census data 2001 and 2011. All the calculation has completed by quantative method. The secondary data were collected from the office of the forest departments of Bilaspur, Land Record of Bilaspur and census of India. The Research methods adopted for this work, these are

interview and case study method. Structured scheduled with open and closed ended questions and discussion with local people.

## **Result & Discussion**

### **Population Growth and Environmental Degradation**

For collecting and processing natural resource and new invention in every work man has played key role. For the causes of under population the natural resource can't to collect fully. Human labour is the main base for earning foreign currency. When the population had not run according to the wealth, and the population become more than land and it has a pressure on the land then it is called the over population. Then the area of market becomes spread due to population explosion.

#### **a. Deforestation and Land Degradation**

The causes of unplanned human activities like increasing of road, habitation, fuel etc are the main causes of deforestation. Forest provide a number of products, these include bamboos, canes gums, medicinal herbs, tanning materials, dyes, honey, wax, vegetables, fruits, roots and tubers etc. The dwellers used tendu leaves for bidi making. Different types of decorative items like flower pots, trays, vases, caskets, baskets and such types of ornaments are made of bamboo. Indiscriminate cutting of trees as well as deforestation have reduced the Carbon-die-oxide absorbing capacity of plants which causes and increases the greenhouses gases like Carbon-die-oxide in the air. These types of gases increase of the atmospheric temperature. As a result the air may be polluted the air. And the cutting trees also effect on soil erosion. In this way degradation of land would follow as cropland will be under tremendous pressure as soon as possible by the over population. As a result the river occurred flood. Then it's carried various types of diseases.

#### **b. River and Socio-Economic Degradation**

In this district at Marwahi block there has flow the river Arpa. This river is called the "The life line of Bilaspur district". A large number of populations depend on this river. But it is very disappointed to say that the maximum time found a little water. That is why the stream is stopped in the dry season.

At some places the river gets dry when reached. There are many places of this district, this form is notice. Here instead just beneath the river, the only cracks and clay dried layers can be seen, under which can be seen rock and rock levels.

So in the dry season this maternal river becomes merciless. It variously gets impact on the environment.

In the dry seasons the rivers become the store of garbage which polluted the environment this in unhygienic condition spread different types of diseases. Now this river is the main source of irrigation in this area. So there have an extra pressure occurred by the over population and it may get various problem in this area.

The habitants who are depended on the river, they are facing a great problem. As a result fisher men have to choose the alternative profession.

### c. Water Crises and Environmental Degradation

For the lack of water the tribal population have not use the bathroom and toilet at their home. So they were taken the open place for this work. This type of disgusting work increases the various types of diseases.

They only cut trees for their own needs, but they have no interest abut tree plantation because the source of water is not available in this areas. They spend a much time for collecting drinking water, so deforestation is increased day by day.

### d. Wetland and Environmental Degradation

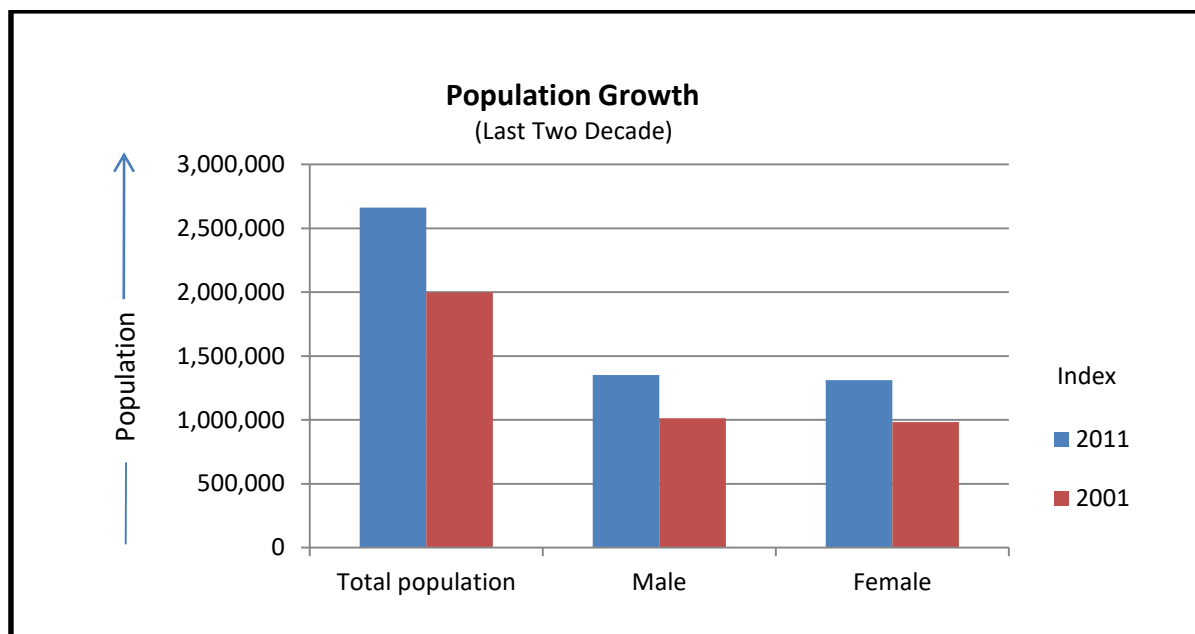
For the excessive population the forest decreased from the past. The habitable land and the road become spreads across the forest and wetland. So the nature's kidney had not worked smoothly. It effect on the natural environment and become environmental degradation. So we can say the rapid growth of population become lower per capita agricultural and fertile land, forest and water resources.

Table.1 Population of Bilaspur District

Year/Population	2011	2001
Total	26,63,629	19,98,355
Male	13,51,574	10,13,875
Female	13,12,055	9,84,480

Source: Census of India 2001&2011

Figure.1



### e. Poverty and Environmental Degradation

Poverty is both the reason and effect of environmental degradation. For the causes of simple life leaving they have lack of demand for highly domestic commodities. So they are depended directly on the natural wealth. It is the cause of destruction of biotic resource of nature. They have a traditional thought about only male child can help to earn money, so they have a tendency to begat more male child. This way unconsciously it becomes rapid population growth. This is mainly responsible for creating poverty. So poverty is an important causes to increases the total population in these tribal areas. For this reason population become increased continuously. In these tribal areas some people would survive half fed.

### Conclusion

Not only Bilaspur district but also in India and all over the world at present situation there has a great problem about population growth. It fells on a bad impact on environment and it occur the environmental degradation. Family planning is very important for decreasing the population growth. Women's education can control the population growth not only the tribal areas but also whole the district of Bilaspur If poverty becomes decrease then surely the population growth will be decreased besides environmental degradation. If definite conversation measures may help to lessen the harm which is being caused to the environmental degradation.

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