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Quality of Population

The quality of population is a crucial factor that determines the potential and growth of a country. It depends on several indicators such as literacy, health, and economic progress.

Education

Education plays a vital role in enhancing the quality of population. It opens new horizons, provides aspirations, develops values, and contributes to societal growth.

Exam Question: Why is education considered an important input for the growth of a person and society?

Answer: Education opens new horizons for individuals, provides new aspirations, develops life values, contributes to societal growth, enhances literacy, and improves health.

Several policies have been implemented to improve literacy in India, including the establishment of Navodaya Vidyalayas, development of vocational education, and encouragement of girls' education. The Eleventh Plan aimed to increase higher education enrollment among 18–23-year-olds to 10%.

Health

Health is a key component of the quality of population as it enables individuals to realize their potential and fight illnesses. The national policy on health aims to provide universal access to quality health services.

Exam Question: How does health contribute to the quality of population?

Answer: Good health allows individuals to realize their potential, fight illnesses, and live longer, which improves the overall quality of population and contributes to economic growth.

Economic Activities and Sectors

Economic activities are classified into three main sectors: primary, secondary, and tertiary. The primary sector includes agriculture, forestry, and fishing. The secondary sector includes manufacturing and construction. The tertiary sector includes services, trade, and insurance. These activities add value to the national income and are divided into market activities (performed for pay or profit) and non-market activities (performed for household use).

There exists a division of labor between men and women in families due to historical and cultural reasons. Household work done by women is often unpaid and undervalued.

Unemployment

Unemployment occurs when people willing to work at prevailing wages cannot find jobs. In India, unemployment varies between rural and urban areas.

Seasonal unemployment happens when agricultural workers cannot find work during certain months. Disguised unemployment occurs when there is an excess of labor in agriculture, which affects quality of life and economic growth.

Exam Question: What are the different types of unemployment in India and their impacts?

Answer: Types include seasonal unemployment (lack of work during certain months), disguised unemployment (excess labor in agriculture) and underemployment.

To address unemployment, the following measures are suggested:

- Encourage entrepreneurship through incentives and support.
- Invest in education and training to develop skills.
- Create public works programs for job creation.
- Increase public sector employment opportunities.
- Provide unemployment benefits and support.
- Promote international trade to stimulate job growth.
- Implement a living wage to reduce poverty and underemployment.
- Address discrimination and inequality to ensure equal job access.

Solved Example

Question: "Health should be treated as an important asset for human capital." Analyse this statement with reference to the national health policy.

Answer:

1. Improvement in the health status of the population has been a national priority.
2. India has a three-tier public health infrastructure: Community Health Centres, Primary Health Centres, and Sub-Centres in rural and semi-urban areas.
3. The National Health Policy 2002 aims to achieve acceptable health standards for the population.
4. The policy advocates a comprehensive approach including individual healthcare, public health, sanitation, clean drinking water, food and nutrition.
5. Over five decades, India has developed extensive health infrastructure and manpower across government and private sectors.

Practice Set

Easy

- Define quality of population.
- List the three main economic sectors.
- What is literacy rate?

Moderate

- Explain the role of education in improving the quality of population.
- Describe disguised unemployment with an example.
- What are the key features of the National Health Policy 2002?

Challenging

- Discuss the impact of unemployment on the economy and society.
- Suggest measures to reduce educated unemployment in urban areas.
- Analyse how health is an asset for human capital with reference to India.

Answer Key

Easy:

- Quality of population refers to the attributes of people such as literacy, health, and skills that determine their productivity.
- The three main economic sectors are primary, secondary, and tertiary.
- Literacy rate is the percentage of people above a certain age who can read and write with understanding.

Moderate:

- Education improves knowledge, skills, values, and aspirations, contributing to personal and societal growth.
- Disguised unemployment occurs when more people are employed than needed, e.g., a family of eight working on a farm that requires 6.
- The National Health Policy 2002 aims to improve health standards through comprehensive healthcare, sanitation, nutrition, and education.

Challenging:

- Unemployment wastes manpower, increases economic burden, reduces quality of life, and slows economic growth.
- Measures include skill development, entrepreneurship encouragement, public sector job creation, and addressing discrimination.
- Health enables individuals to work effectively, live longer, and contribute to economic development, making it a valuable asset.

Quick Reference

- **Quality of Population:** Literacy, health, skills.
- **Economic Sectors:** Primary (agriculture), Secondary (manufacturing), Tertiary (services).
- **Unemployment Types:** Seasonal, disguised, educated.
- **National Policies:** Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan, National Health Policy 2002.

Glossary

- **Gross National Product (GNP):** Total value of goods and services produced by a country's residents in a year.
- **Literacy Rate:** Percentage of people who can read and write with understanding.
- **Life Expectancy:** Average number of years a person is expected to live.
- **Disguised Unemployment:** Employment of more people than necessary in a job.
- **Educated Unemployment:** Unemployment among educated youth unable to find suitable jobs.

2002	National Health Policy launched
2010	Target for universal elementary education under Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan
2011-2012	Eleventh Plan aimed 15% higher education enrollment
Twelfth Plan	Targeted 21% higher education enrollment

Prepzy

Literacy rate

Education level

Health status

Skill development

**1. Quality of
Population-
depends on**

Types of unemployment:

Disguised unemployment in Rural areas

Ex. unnecessary involvement of member in a family work.

Seasonal unemployment, Ex. people who are having jobs only for season like farmers.

Educated unemployment in Urban areas.

Causes of unemployment (population growth, lack of education and skills)

Effects of unemployment (poverty, inequality, social unrest)

Solutions to unemployment (education and skill development, entrepreneurship, job creation)

**4. Unemploy
people who a
to work at th
wages are no
find jobs.**