

CONCEPT OF POPULATION EDUCATION AND ITS DEVELOPMENT

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1. **Introduction:**

Population is the number of individuals at a given moment, in a geographical area. With time this number changes continuously because of birth, deaths and migrations. The information on these changes is meaningful only when it provides reasons, process and consequences of these changes. These changes are eventually increasing the population. At present the growth of population has become one of the most serious human problem all over the world. According to the UNFPA Report, "the world population has reached to 6 billion with an addition of one billion in only 12 years. Nearly half are under 25 and one billion are young people between 15-24, the parents of the next generation." (UNFPA 1999, P.1). A critical look at the effect of every individual added to the population as an increment to the demands on the environment and environmental impact of technologies involved in the production to meet the consumption needs of each additional person presents an alarming situation.

Due to the rapid population growth rate, most of the countries of the world are confronted with problems of shortage of resources, and in-adequate educational and health facilities to their citizens. The problems has doubled by an intensive cultivation, growth in industries, clearing forests, filling wet lands and conversion of farms lands into residential colonies to meet the current needs of the population. Particularly the situation in developing countries is very critical. In 1996, UNFPA report has pointed out that, "over 90 percent of the current growth in human numbers is taking place in the developing world". (Population, Environment and Development Linkages, 1996, P-14).

The importance attached to the population issues and their implications on individual's life and community at large, has prompted the governments, national and international organizations to attack these problems. Different approaches have been adopted