

# **Population Policy at National and State Level**

The logo of Galgotias University is a stylized, multi-colored swirl or 'G' shape, positioned behind the main title.

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## Objectives

This presentation aims at:

1. Illustrating the definition of policy;
2. Steps involved in policy cycle;
3. Defining the population policy;
4. Imparting knowledge on common elements of population policies.
5. Document the Process of Formulating Population Policy at State level in a Federal Country;
6. Review the content of National Population Policy, India 2000;
7. Review the National v/s State Population Policy.

## What is a Policy?

- Set of Ideas or Plans that is used as a basis for decision making;
- Attitude and actions of an organization regarding a particular issue;
- General Statement of understanding which guide decision making.

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## Basis for Policy

- Set of Values
- Commitments
- Assessment of current situation
- Image of a desired future situation.

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## Four stages of Policy Process

- Problem Identification and Issue Recognition
- Policy Formulation
- Policy Implementation
- Policy Evaluation

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## Policies related to Health Sector

- National Health Policy
- Nutrition Policy
- Women Policy
- Training Policy
- Population Policy

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## What is Population Policy?

- Measures formulated by a range of social institutions including Government which may influence the size, distribution or composition of human population (Driver,1972).
- A deliberate effort by a national government to influence the demographic variables like fertility, mortality and migration (Organski & Organski,1961)
- A set of Coordinated laws aimed at reaching some demographic goal (Biurgeois-Pichat,1974)

## Types of Population Policies

- ***Explicit*** : Document by a national government announcing its intention to affect the population growth and composition
- ***Implicit*** : Directives not necessarily issued to influence the population growth and composition but may have the effect of doing so.



## Elements common to Population Policies

- Rationale : demographic analysis
- Objectives and Goals
- Targets : time bound level of fertility
- Program Measures

## Process of Population Policymaking

- Developing the Constituency in favor of Population Policy
- Identifying the arguments favoring population policy
- Addressing the issues to a right place
- Visualizing the form a policy should take
- Recognizing the most advantageous time

## Observations on National Population Policy(NPP)India-2000

- Objectives
- New Structures
- Strategic Themes
- National Socio-demographic Goals (2010)
- Promotional and Motivational Measures
- Interventions

## National Population Policy-2000, India aims at

- **Short Term** : fulfill unmet need for contraception, strengthening the health infrastructure, integrating the services for Reproductive and Child Health.
- **Medium Term** : effective implementation of inter-sector strategies to substantially reduce the TFR by 2010.
- **Long Term** : to sustain the economic growth, social development and eco-conservation, stabilise the population by 2045.

## Demographic Targets of NPP-2000 India (2010)

- Fulfilling the *Unmet Need* for RCH
- Free and compulsory education for children under-fourteen
- Reducing the school dropout between boys and girls to 20 percent
- Bringing IMR < 30
- Bringing MMR < 100
- Increasing Immunization against VPDs to 100 percent
- Encouraging the increase in average age at marriage of girls
- Increasing Institutional Deliveries to 80 percent
- > delivery by trained hands to 100 percent
- Making contraceptive of choice available to 100 percent population

## Demographic Targets of NPP-2000 India (2010)

Cont.

- Enhancing the IEC coverage for RTI/STI/AIDS to cent percent population
- Integrating allopathy with ISM for betterment of RCH services
- Encouraging the small family norm to substantially reduce TFR
- Coordinating the activities of social sector development to make family welfare program public oriented



## Strategies for NPP-2000, India

- Decentralize the Plan and Program Implementation
- Convergence in services at delivery points
- Women Empowerment **to mitigate nutrition/health problems of females**
- Strengthening child survival
- Meeting the unmet need for FW
- Special services for slums
- Attending Adolescents
- Increasing Male Participation

## Structures to be created for NPP- 2000, India

- National Population Commission under the chair of Prime Minister
- Population Commissions in each state under the chair of Chief Ministers
- Coordination Cell in Planning Commission at country level
- Creating Technology Mission at national level



## Population Program Promotional Measures

- providing fertility regulating information/services
- furnishing family life/sex education information
- improving the status of women
- improving health and nutritional status
- providing incentives and disincentives
- improving research and evaluation
- carrying out specific legal reforms to influence internal and international migration

## Population Policy at State level

- India is a federation of 26 states and 6 union territories with varying development status. While Kerala in south have exemplary demographic indicators, the situation in northern states is dismal.
- Although *Population Management* falls in the concurrent list of activities envisaged in the constitutional framework of India but with other issues of social development like Health, Education and Women development being in the state list of activities, state governments own the responsibilities to a large extent. Thus a new phenomena of policy formulation at state level has begun which may re intensify the efforts of Union Government.
- Since population growth and quantum influence the development of the country at large, union government has consistently interacted with states on this subject.

## Summary

- It has been a unique event in the history of Public Health in India that in the year 2000 that the Population Policies have been released at the country and state level with the goal of stabilizing Population in a large subcontinent which currently constitutes one-sixth of world's population. It is now for students of Health Management to see, how the proposed interventions work in the coming time.

## BIBLIOGRAPHY

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