

Population as a Resource

Chapter 17: People as Resource · Topic 1

Key Concept

A skilled and educated population contributes significantly to economic growth by working in various industries, starting businesses, and driving innovation and productivity.

Investing in education, healthcare, and skill development transforms a large population from a potential burden into a valuable asset, often called the 'demographic dividend'.

India's relatively young population offers a significant demographic dividend, provided there are enough jobs, quality education, and skill training opportunities available.

However, if population growth outpaces resources and opportunities, it can lead to challenges like unemployment, strain on infrastructure, and increased poverty.

Quick Revision Notes

- Population is a valuable human resource.
- Skilled populations contribute to economic growth.
- Education and healthcare investment create a 'demographic dividend'.
- India has a relatively young population.
- A demographic dividend requires jobs and quality education.
- Population growth can also create challenges.
- Unmanaged growth can strain infrastructure.
- It can also lead to unemployment and poverty.

Practice Questions

- 1 Discuss how education can turn population into an asset.
- 2 Research what 'demographic dividend' means for India.
- 3 Explain a challenge caused by rapid, unmanaged population growth.
- 4 Discuss why skill training is important for young people.
- 5 Research India's youth population statistics.
- 6 Discuss how your community could better use its population as a resource.