CLASS 12 TH, GEOGRAPHY NOTES

CHAPTER 2 – The world population Distribution, Density and Growth

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FACTORS INFLUENCING GLOBAL POPULATION DISTRIBUTION:-

1. *PHYSICAL FACTORS:-*

   a) Climate-
      - People prefer to live in temperate climates where there is enough rainfall and No extremes of temperature.
      - A lack of fresh water for drinking or irrigation stops people living in an area.
      - Very high temperatures make farming difficult. Dehydration and heat Stroke are other issues.
      - Areas with high humidity are also uncomfortable places to live and can be Affected by diseases such as malaria.
      - Very cold temperatures make it difficult to grow crops or to build homes And transport links as the ground can be frozen for much of the year.
      - Frostbite makes it difficult to work outside for any length of time, and Protective clothing would need to be worn.

   b) Relief-

   - Steep slopes make the use of machinery difficult. Also make it difficult to build Houses, roads and railways.
   - High, mountainous areas are too cold which makes it difficult to grow crops. And are often remote which makes them difficult to access.
   - Flat, low-lying areas have deeper soil which makes it easier to grow crops.

   c) Natural resources-

   - Few natural resources, such as coal, in an area means there is a Lack of industry and therefore a lack of employment opportunities.

   - Scenery is a resource and can attract tourists, bringing job Opportunities.

   d) Soils-

- Areas with fertile soils, e.g. river deltas, are good for growing crops To feed the population.

- Poor soils with few nutrients mean there will be a low agricultural Output.

    e) Availability of water-

    It is the most important factor for life. So, people prefer to live in areas where fresh water is easily available. Water is used for drinking, bathing and cooking and also for cattle, crops, industries and navigation. It is Because of this that river valleys are among the most densely Populated areas of the world.

2. *HUMAN FACTORS:-*

- Jobs, e.g., in manufacturing and service industries encourage People to move to find work. Tourism can also attract visitors to an Area, providing local people with jobs.

- Areas with good transport links, such as roads and railways, will Attract people and industry which creates employment Opportunities.

- Remote areas which are isolated and have poor transport links do not Attract people.

3. *ECONOMIC FACTORS:-*

- Minerals: Areas with mineral deposits attract Industries. Mining and industrial activities generate Employment. So, skilled and semi–skilled workers Move to these areas and make them densely
Populated. Katanga Zambia copper belt in Africa is One such good example.

- Urbanisation: Cities offer better employment Opportunities, educational and medical facilities, Better means of transport and communication. Good Civic amenities and the attraction of city life draw People to the cities. It leads to rural to urban Migration.

- Industrialisation: Industrial belts provide job Opportunities and attract large numbers of people. These include not just factory workers but also transport operators, shopkeepers, bank employees, doctors, teachers and other service providers. The Kobe-Osaka region of Japan is thickly populated because of the presence of a number of Indus Industries.

4. *SOCIAL AND CULTURE FACTORS –*

- Some places attract more people because they have religious or cultural significance. In the same way – people tend to move away from places where there is social and political unrest. Many a times governments offer incentives to people to live in sparsely populated areas or move away from overcrowded places. And cities grow in size. Mega cities of the world continue to attract large number of migrants every year.

POPULATION GROWTH :-

The population growth or population change refers to the change in number of inhabitants of a territory during a specific period of time. This change may be positive as well as negative. It can be expressed either in terms of absolute numbers or in terms of percentage. Population change in an area is an important indicator of economic development, social upliftment and historical and cultural background of the region.