

Is there a need for Government of India to upgrade its holistic National population policy 2000? Analyse.

United Nations published a report, showing India will surpass China by 2030.

Need for policy:

① To move from family planning approach to family welfare.

② Counteract the effects of growing aging population that could end up causing economic slowdown.

③ To build healthy, skilled and productive population rather than large or small.

Lesson from China:

① 1-child policy → Reduction in population growth rate.

→ Rise in elderly population.

② 2/3 children → decline in fertility rate.

Rather than focusing on fertility rate focusing on slow changes in family size of a growing economy.

Impacts of ageing population :

12% of India's total population by 2025 will be elderly. i.e., every 5th Indian by 2050 will be over 65 age.

① Chinese are under the growing burden of taking care of elderly.

② Ageing is also a gender issue as $\frac{2}{3}$ of elderly are women.

③ Apart from economic, India's fertility rate fell below 2.1% for certain 10 states.

Potential youth :

① Need to invest in adolescent well being otherwise, demographic dividend into demographic disaster.

② Need to improve employment opportunities for young women and increase employment rate will decrease the gender disparity at the ageing population.

③ young people → education
↳ labour market
with sufficient skills
↳ economic liability

Way forward:

- ① Need a policy that,
- Invest in family planning.
 - Supports reproductive health for individuals
 - Enhancing people as resource for India's development
 - Ensure population is happy, healthy and productive.

India needs to upgrade its population policy with family welfare approach for sustainable healthy and productive population.