

Lesson No: 12

POPULATION GROWTH AND WORLD FOOD SUPPLIES

Q: Which areas are most affected by incessant growth in population?

A: The developing countries are the most affected areas by the incessant growth in population.

Q: Why are the developing countries going to suffer more due to over-population?

A: The developing countries are going to suffer more due to over-population because food problems are very severe in these countries. The per capita availability of food grains has been declining for the past 25 years.

Q: What is the major cause of food shortages and malnutrition?

A: The major cause of food shortages and malnutrition is the severe increase in population with shortage of productive fertile land and decreased land productivity.

Q: How are water resources under great stress?

A: Water resources are under great stress because populous cities, states and countries require more water from rivers and lakes to fulfil their need of fresh water to irrigate their crops and the major threat is the overuse of surface and ground water resources.

Q: What is the effect of depletion of fossil energy?

A: Fossil energy is utilized for agricultural purpose in fertilizers and irrigation to help maintain productivity. Its depletion results in increased cost of the fuel to meet the demand of increasing population.

Q: What is the limitation of improved technology?

A: Improved technology cannot produce an unlimited flow of those vital natural resources that are the raw materials for sustained agricultural production.

Q: How can sufficient food supply be made possible for the future generation?

A: Sufficient food supply can be made possible for the future generation by curtailing the growth in human population and maintaining the integrity of biodiversity.

Q: What strategies should be adopted for safe future?

A: Strategies for safe future should be based on the conservation and careful management of land, water, energy, and biological resources needed for food production. We should also make efforts to keep the population of the world under control.