

RIISING POPULATION

Controlling rising population is a complex challenge that requires multifaceted strategies encompassing social, economic, and policy interventions. Addressing this issue is crucial to ensure sustainable development, improve quality of life, and mitigate various socio-economic problems.

Nelson Mandela -Long walk to freedom

It is easy to break down and destroy. The heroes are those who make peace and build" - Nelson Mandela.

Nelson Mandela devoted his life to the service of humanity - as a human rights lawyer, a person of consciousness, an international peace maker and the first democratically elected President of a free South Africa.

Nelson Mandela was born on July 18, 1918, into a royal family of the Xhosa-speaking tribe in South African village of Mvezo, where his father, Gadla Henry Mphahanyise, served as chief.

Nelson Mandela studied Law at the University of Fort Hare and the University of Witwatersrand before working as a lawyer in Johannesburg. There he became involved in anti colonial and African nationalist politics, joining the ANC in 1943 and co-founding more militant Youth League.

While he was influenced by Mohandas Gandhi's Satyagraha movement, he saw non violence as tactical decision rather than the moral choice described by Gandhi ji. In the early days, Mandela notes, "the state was far more powerful than We."

Mandela served 27 years in prison, split between Robben Island, Pollsmoor Prison and Victor verster prison .Amid growing domestic and international pressure and fears of racial civil war, President FW.de klerk released him in 1990.

Nelson Mandela was an iconic revolutionary who ended Apartheid in South Africa. Africa's great statesman, Mandela presided over a largely peaceful transition and stepped aside after only one term in Power.

Nelson Mandela's life and writings reveal his fascination with Education. The late Statesman's autobiography, "Long walk to freedom", often profiles characters by their education and what he learnt from them.

As an activist, as a prisoner or as a leader in Govt, he remained intensely conscious of his moral and political responsibilities as a man in search for Excellence. Even after his death on December 5, 2013, he has remained a global figure with a legacy- of politics of excellence.

DR. PARVEEN KUMAR

According to the United Nations (UN), world is now home to population which is more than three times larger than it was in the mid-twentieth century. The global human population had peaked up to d 8.0 billion in mid-November 2022 from an estimated 2.5 billion people in 1950, adding 1 billion people since 2010 and 2 billion since 1998.

Overall, significant gains in life expectancy have been achieved in recent years. Globally, life expectancy at birth is expected to rise from 72.8 years in 2019 to 77.2 years in 2050. While considerable progress has been made in closing the longevity differential between countries, large gaps remain.

O N KOUL

Russia is the time tested, all weather and traditional friend of India and she has stood by India in thick and thin .Prime Minister Narendra Modi is taking this relationship and friendship of India and Russia to new heights and is taking all efforts to strengthen it for the good of the two countries.

K.V. SEETHARAMAIAH

Rahul Dravid, hailing from Karnataka and former cricket captain of Indian national team, has been demitting his office as coach paving way for Gautam Gambhir to succeed him. He was known as "Wall".

YOUR COLUMN

Treating terrorists and OGWs alike

According to a universal truth, "No axe, howsoever sharp, can render harm to any tree in the forest without the wooden handle made from the branches of the fellow trees". Country in general and Jammu and Kashmir UT in particular has been bearing the brunt of internal and the sponsored terrorism for the last 40 years resulting into the cases of mass scale migration from the valley, genocide chaos and arson, stone pelting, selective killings of minorities and the nonresident laborers and killing of the armed forces in Kupwara, Uri, Poonch, Rajouri and other parts of Jammu and Kashmir.

WORLD POPULATION DAY

Understanding the population dynamics

Global migration is a much smaller component of population change than births or deaths. However, in some countries and areas that send or receive large numbers of economic migrants and those affected by refugee flows the impact of migration on population size is significant.

If we analyze the population growth in the world, we find that a tremendous change occurred with the industrial revolution; whereas it had taken all of human history until around 1800 for world population to reach one billion, the second billion was achieved in only 130 years (1930), the third billion in 30 years (1960), the fourth billion in 15 years (1974), and the fifth billion in only 13 years (1987).

To focus attention on the urgency and importance of population issues, the 'World Population Day' was established by the then Governing Council of the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) in 1989 as an outgrowth of the interest generated by the Day of Five Billion, which was observed on 11 July 1987.

when the world's population reached 5 billion. This day was suggested by Dr. K. C. Zachariah when population reached five billion and when he worked as Senior Demographer at World Bank. The World Population Day also calls for global attention to the unfinished business of the 1994 'International Conference on Population and Development'.

Overpopulation is a major issue given the unsustainable rate at which the world's resources are being depleted. It is important to understand how population expansion impacts the environment and development. The ever-expanding population also brings with it the attention to be given to health problems that women face during pregnancy and childbirth, highlighting the importance of gender equality, family planning, and maternal health.

Population issues disproportionately affect people in developing countries. People living in very poor countries have a life expectancy that's about 20 years shorter than people in rich developed countries. One third of population growth is due to unplanned pregnancies which often happen when peoples are lacking education and family planning services.

Every country should also ensure that the relevant commodities and services are available and accessible to everyone and that these should be acceptable. It also should be binding upon the countries to ensure the active participation of individuals in decisions that affect them including health issues.

The significance of this day is that it sparks discussions about how rising population and its dynamics impact socio-economic development, environmental sustainability, and individual well-being. It is also a reminder that our growing population presents both challenges and opportunities that require our pro-active measures and the way out to challenges posed by increasing population lies in family planning, gender equality, poverty, maternal health and human rights.

(The author writes on agriculture and social issues)

Strengthening of Indo-Russia ties

PM Modi announced 2 new Indian consulates in Russia.PM Modi has announced that India will set up two new consulates in the Russia cities of Kazan and Yekaterinberg. Russia has promised to discharge Indians who were falsely induced to join its army ,an issue Prime Minister Modi raised at talks with President Putin .India has been seeking the release of its nationals whose families say they were lured to Russia by the promise of "support jobs "in the army ,and were later forced to into active combat in Ukraine .

different options for gas supplies to India.PM Modi emphasizes peace over conflict in talks with Putin highlighting India's commitment to global peace and stability.PM Modi said he had productive discussions with President Putin at Kremlin ."Talks covered ways to diversify India-Russia cooperation in trade, commerce ,security, agriculture ,technology & innovation ,he said. "We attach great importance to boosting connectivity and people -to -people exchanges "Mr Modi said after talks with Putin. PM Modi visits photo exhibition dedicated to India -Russia cooperation in the field of civil nuclear energy.PM Modi said energy is an important pillar of cooperation between India and Russia and New Delhi is eager to further cement ties in this sector with Moscow as he visited the Rosatom Pavilion along with President Putin .Modi witnessed a photo exhibition dedicated to India-Russia cooperation in the field of civil nuclear energy at the Rosatom Pavilion at VDNKh ,inaugurated in November 2023.

We spoke frankly and sensed a new thinking from our talks. "PM Modi told Putin , "India is in favor of peace, and I want to tell the international community that after may talks with my friend Putin I am filled with hope in this ."I am confident that our ties will see further strengthening in coming years said PM Modi in opening remarks in talks with President Putin ."I am happy that we both could put

across or individual views on Ukraine in yesterday's meeting ,"PM Modi told Putin. There are few signs Modi ,the leader of the world's largest democracy ,plans to challenge Putin directly over his actions in Ukraine .Instead ,the Indian leader appears to have engaged Moscow as part of a wider balancing act between East and West that has been at the core of his foreign policy .Ahead of his departure for Moscow ,Modi noted the partnership with Russia had advanced over the past 10 years ,and he looked forward to reviewing all aspects of bilateral cooperation with his friend Putin. "We seek to play a supportive role for a peaceful and stable region ,"Modi added ,without clarifying .Statements by the Kremlin were similarly sanguine ,saying that Modi's visit would built on "traditionally friendly Russian-Indian relations. "Modi was greeted by a goose stepping honor guard upon arrival at Moscow's Vnukovo airport Monday afternoon .Russian Deputy Prime Minister Denis Manturov ,who had worked with an Indian -Russia aeronautics company in the past ,greeted him on the tarmac .Russia and India have strong ties that date back to the height of the cold war .In a partnership that often blurred ideological lines ,the Soviets provided weapons to India as both countries found a common threat in the rise of their neighbor China .Past forward to today and much has changed .

The United States is now one of India's major partners and India's military needs have diversified. India has refused Western entreaties ,including by Washington ,to condemn Russia's invasion of Ukraine-with Modi instead urging a vague diplomatic settlement to the conflict. In short the more recent visit of PM Modi to Russia will result in strengthening of bilateral ties and cooperation between India and Russia.

(The author is a columnist, social and KP activist)

Dravid's Big Gesture

earliest possible time. He was never at the centre of controversy. Now he has declined to accept additional bonus of Rs. 2.5. crore announced by the BCCI (Board of Control for Cricket in India) in recognition of his part in taking the Indian team to the path of victory in the World Cup match. He has agreed to accept equal amount as other staff conveying his desire

to treat him on par with others. BCCI says it respects the sentiments of Dravid. He has proved that he is a gentleman cricketer. It can be said to his credit that he had scored 13288 runs in test cricket and 10899 in ODIs. He had made 36 centuries and 63 fifties in test matches and 12 centuries and 83 fifties in ODIs. He has been described as a cricket legend,

master, servant, mentor and more. He is a key figure in the world of cricket. Having made his debut in 1996 in the international play, he stayed till 2012. Winning a world cup was his dream. His dream came true in 2024. Under the tutelage of Dravid, India thrashed England in five-match test series at home and the team also reached the 2023 World Cup final.

cles have confirmed the reality of involvement of some locals but for whose assistance such grievous attacks have been impossible. It is a matter of great surprise as how a person enjoying all the facilities and amenities of life in a democratic and secular state can ever desert and rebel against the nation and become a tool in the hands of the terrorist outfits in lieu of fistful of money for helping them in carrying out their plans of bleeding the nation. Every nationalist is compelled to pray to the Home and Defence ministers to treat and punish these OWGs like the terrorists. The homes providing the shelter to these terrorists be demolished with Mortar shells. All the facilities of Adhaar, Pan, ID ,ration cards, PRCs, Domicile certificates be confiscated and convicted under the same laws meant for the terrorists.

The time has come to identify the venomous snakes camouflaged under the grass crush their hood so that they never dare going against the interests and security of the country they live-in.

Shiv Kumar Padha