

Demographic Profile of District Anantnag (Jammu and Kashmir)

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Abstract

Population studies were not given much priority in the past, but at present days people of different field require the information about population. So its importance is increasing day by day. The present study is based on demographic profile being experienced in District Anantnag, which is located in southern direction of Kashmir valley and is 3rd most populous district of Jammu and Kashmir. The present study is based mainly of secondary sources of data. The study revealed that in District Anantnag, there was both negative and positive growth rate of population from 1961 to 2011. The present study also analyzed population distribution pattern, rural-urban population, working and non-working population, literacy rate and sex-ratio of district Anantnag.

Key Words

Population growth, distribution, rural-urban population, working and non-working, literacy, sex-ratio.

Introduction

Population studies have for long been the subject of concern for social scientists including geographers. The varying contents and methodologies of different disciplines studying population notwithstanding, each social science has made valuable contributions towards the understanding of spatial-temporal patterns of population. Anantnag district is one of the districts of Kashmir valley with total area of 3,574 km² including 3,475 km² rural area and 98.24 km² urban area. The district Anantnag has a population of 10, 78,692 peoples. There are 1, 53,640 houses in the district. Most of the people live in rural areas as per census 2011.

Anantnag, the southern district of Kashmir valley has population of 10, 78,692 of which male and female were 55,767 and 518,925 respectively. There was change of 38.58 % in the population compared to population as per 2001. In the previous census of India 2001, Anantnag district records increase of 32.77 % to its population compared to 1991. The density of population as per 2011 is 302 person per sq km with compared to 2001, it was at 283 person per sq km. The average literacy rate of Anantnag in 2011 was 62.69 % compared to 47.59 % of 2001. The male and female literacy were 72.66 % and 52.19 % respectively. With regards to its sex-ratio in Anantnag, it stood at 927 per 1000 male in 2011 and 911 per 1000 male in 2001. The total population of all who lived without roof at the census 2011 numbers to 750 families, while in 2001, 88 families lives on footpath or without any roof cover in Anantnag district. Out of the total Anantnag population for 2011, 26.23 % lives in urban regions and 73.77 % of population lives in rural areas of villages.

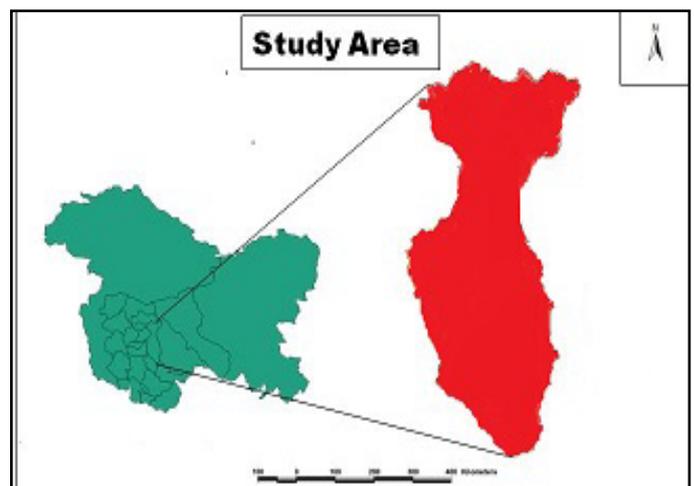
Methodology and Data Base

The entire data is used for present study has been obtained from secondary source, collected from district statistical hand book Anantnag. In order to analyze the demographic profile of Anantnag district, simple sophisticated statistical diagrams and cartographic map have been used. For preparing an inventory demographic profile at two points of time, simple method of percentage has been used.

Objectives:- The present study has set to achieve following objectives:-

- I. To examine the growth rate and distributional pattern of population of Anantnag district.
- II. To examine the social characteristics of Anantnag district.

Study Area:- The area selected for the present research work is district Anantnag. Anantnag is situated in the southern region of the state. The district lies the geographical coordinates of 74°-30' to 75°- 35' East longitude and 33°-20' to 34°-15' North latitude, at an altitude of 5,300 feet (16,00mts) above mean sea level, at a distance of 33 miles (53kms) from main city Srinagar. It comprises an area of 2917 km² which includes 1882 km² of forest area. According to 2011 census it is the third most populous district of state with population of 1,070,144. The district has a population density of 375 inhabitants per sq km.



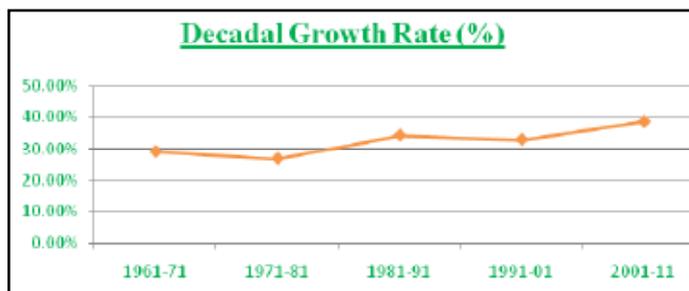
Population growth

The concept of population change or growth of population is often used to connote the change in the number of inhabitants of a territory during a specific period of time, irrespective of the fact whether change is negative or Positive, and can be measured both in terms of absolute numbers and in terms of percentage (%). The growth rate of population of Anantnag is shown in the table given below as under:

Table 1 : Decadal Growth of Population (Anantnag)

DECADE	GROWTH RATE (%)
1961-71	+29.06
1971-81	+26.78
1981-91	+34.33
1991-01	+32.97
2001-11	+38.58

Source: Census department.



Analysis

There was change of 38.58 % in the population compared to population to 2001. In 2001, Anantnag district recorded increase of 32.77 % to its population compared to 1991, 34.33 % to 1981, 26.78 % to 1971 and 29.06 % to 1961. The Anantnag district shows both negative and positive growth rate of population from 1961-2011. There was negative growth rate from 1971-81 with -2.28 %, positive growth rate from 1981-91 with +7.55 %, negative growth rate with -1.36 % from 1991-01 and positive growth rate with +5.61 % from 2001-11. The negative growth rate of population from 1971-81 was due to high mortality rate as compared to fertility rate, due to non-nutritional food with low caloric value, lack of medical facilities and poor sanitation. Thus unhygienic conditions, poor diet and lack of the medical facilities are the reasons for a high mortality rate (death rate) from 1971-81 in the district Anantnag. While the positive growth rate from 1981-91 was due to high fertility rate (birth rate) accompanied by low mortality rate, leads to high population as a result of many factors such as improved medical facilities, better diet, proper sanitation etc. The negative growth rate was also recorded from 1991-01 due to mobility (migration), as much of the population migrates towards Jammu province due to political instability in the district. But there was also positive growth rate from 2001-11 due to rapid decline in the mortality rate, as modern drugs are used by people, better quality food products and hygienic conditions are expanded. But the fertility rate still high as people do not make any efforts to control the size of family because of religious and social taboos towards the family planning.

Population Distribution

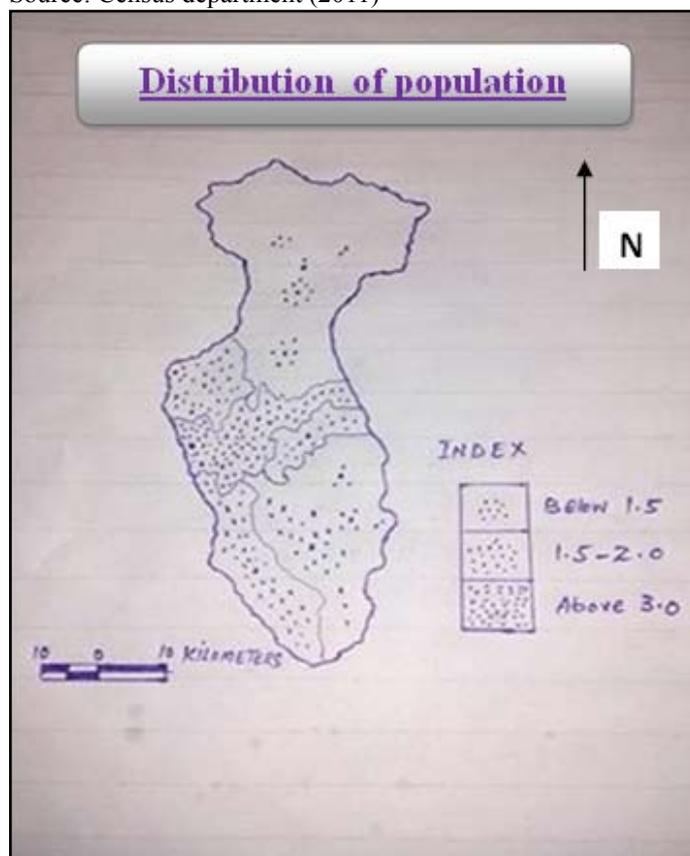
The population distribution refers to the pattern of spread of population over the earth's surface. The spatial distribution of population in the India is not ubiquitous. There is a wide regional contracts in the degree of concentration of population giving highly variable densities to different parts of India. The district Anantnag of Jammu and Kashmir also shows unevenness of the distribution of population. There is tehsil wise unevenness in the distribution of population, as it has highly distributed tehsil of

Anantnag with 3.65 lacs persons and sparsely distributed tehsil of Shangus with 0.74 lacs persons. The distribution of population by tehsils of Anantnag district is given below:

Table 2 : Distribution of Population by Tehsils (Anantnag)

Tehsil	Distribution of Population (Lac persons)
Pahalgam	1.20
Bijbehara	1.47
Anantnag	3.65
Shangus	0.74
Kokernag	1.74
Dooru	1.99
Total	10.79

Source: Census department (2011)



Analysis

The tehsil Anantnag is highly dense populated tehsil out of six tehsils of the district Anantnag with 33.82 % population, followed by Dooru 18.45 % population, Kokernag 16.13 % population, Bijbehara 13.62 %, Pahalgam 11.13 %, and least sparsely dense tehsil is Shangus with 06.85 % population. The Anantnag tehsil is dense populated tehsil because of favorable physiography, moderate climatic conditions, fertile soil, small scale industries, various education institutions, govt. departments, space-relationships (Accessibility), urbanization etc. These factors support the distribution of population in this tehsil. Dooru, Kokernag, Bijbehara, Pahalgam tehsils of Anantnag district are moderately distributed tehsils and least sparsely distributed tehsil is Shangus tehsil of Anantnag district, because of undulating physiography, harsh climatic conditions, less fertile soil, less road connectivity (Accessibility), lack of health facilities etc. These

factors affect the population distribution adversely in the tehsil.

Rural Urban Population

The term ‘‘Rural’’ refers to territory, populations and housing units located outside urbanized areas or clusters, such as villages, while the term ‘‘Urban’’ indicates land areas, populations and housing developments located in urbanized areas, such as cities and towns. Urban areas or urban centers feature densely populated landscapes and typically have census-determined population densities of more than 1000 residents per sq mile. Rural areas, in contrast, generally have fewer than 500 persons per sq mile. The main distinction between the rural and urban population is based on functions, as people in the urban centers are engaged in secondary activities and tertiary activities, while people in rural areas are engaged in primary activities like agriculture, fishing, forestry etc. The Rural-Urban population of district Anantnag is shown in the table below as:

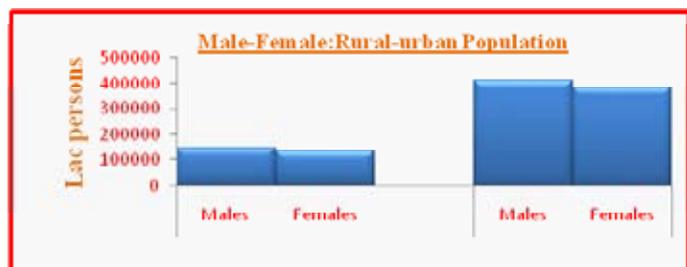
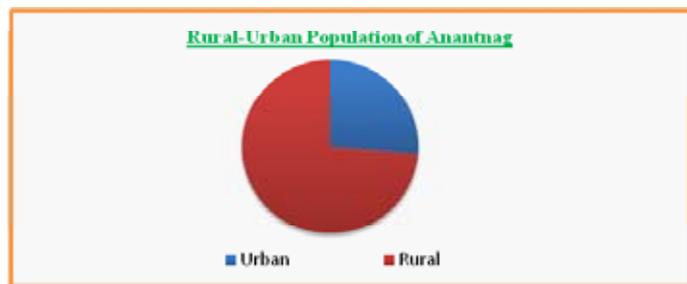
Table 3 : Rural-Urban Population of Anantnag (Lac Persons)

TOTAL	TOTAL	1078692
	MALES	559767
	FEMALES	518925
URBAN	TOTAL	282887
	MALES	148755
	FEMALES	134132
RURAL	TOTAL	795805
	MALES	411012
	FEMALES	384793

Source: Census department

Analysis

The total population of the district as per census 2011 is 1078692 persons. It is confined in both rural and urban sectors. Out of total population of the district Anantnag, rural sector consists of 73.23 % population of which males and females are 51.64 % and 48.36 % respectively. The urban sector consists of 26.23 % population of which males and females are 52.58 % and 47.42 % respectively. This indicates that 2/3rd



population of Anantnag district lives in rural areas of villages and is directly or indirectly dependent on agriculture (primary activities) and 1/3rd of population lives in urban areas of towns, involved in secondary and tertiary activities. Thus agriculture and allied activities are the back bone of district Anantnag’s economy.

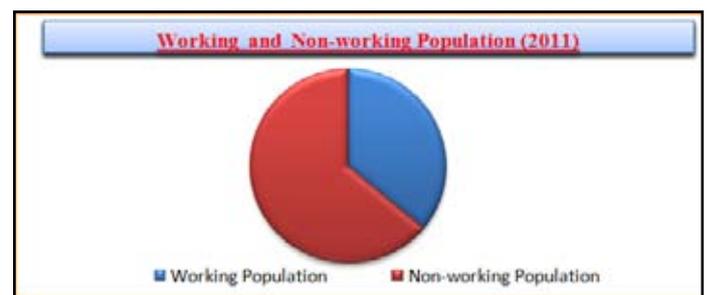
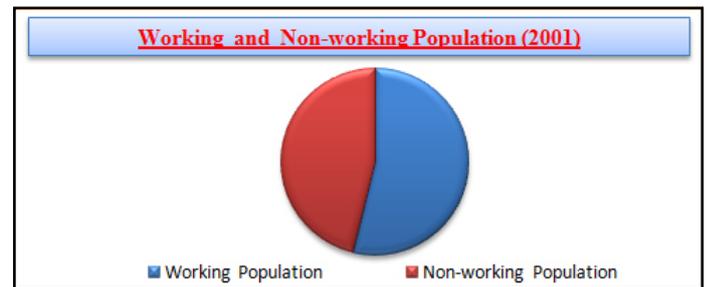
Working and Non-working population

Working population refers to the number of people who are willing and eligible to work. Those who are above 15 years of age and willing to work are considered in this bracket. The working age population is defined as those aged between 15-64 years. The basic indicator for employment is the employed. The Non-working population is defined as those aged population aged 15-64 years who are proportion of the working age below 15 years and above 64 years. The Non-working population is the dependency population, as much of its population is students, old aged persons. The Working and Non-working population of Anantnag district is given below in a table as:

Table 4 : Working and Non-working Population Anantnag (Lac Persons)

Year	Total Population	Working Population	Non-Working Population
2001	7.34	3.95	3.39
2011	10.79	3.89	6.9

Source: Census department



Analysis:

Out of the total Anantnag population 7.34 lacs for 2001 census, 53.81 % was Independent population and 46.19% was Dependent population. In 2011, the figure of total population is 10.79 lacs. Out of which 36.06 % was Independent population and 63.85 % Dependent population. From 2001 to 2011, there was 31.97 % population added to the total population of district Anantnag, but there was 1.55 % Independent population decreased from 2001-2011, while there was 43.62 % Dependent population added from 2001-2011. From above discussion, it is clear that 2/3rd population of Anantnag district is Dependent population as compared to Independent population (1/3rd) according to census 2011. In the district Anantnag, 2/3rd Dependent population is due

to high Crude Birth Rate (CBR).

The total working force is divided into four main categories as:

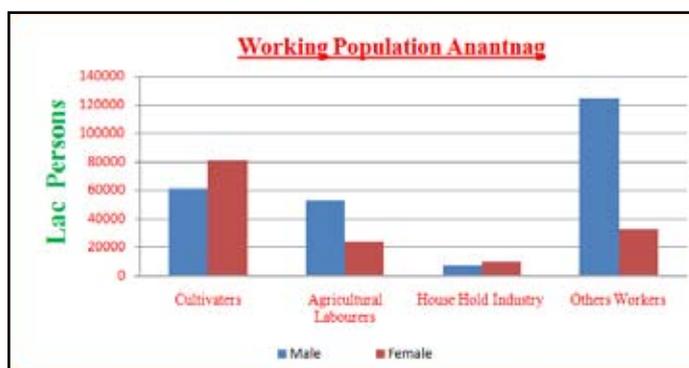
- I. Cultivators.
- II. Agricultural labourers.
- III. Household Industry workers.
- IV. Others workers.

The detailed distribution of all these categories of Anantnag district of Kashmir valley is given below in a table as:

Table 5 : Total Working Population of Anantnag (Lac Persons)

Category of Workers	Male	Female	Total
Cultivators	60683	80274	140957
Agricultural Labourers	52445	23919	76364
House Hold Industry	6897	9425	16322
Other Workers	124007	32034	156041
Total	244032	145652	389684

Source: Census department



Analysis

The total working population of Anantnag is 389684 persons, out of which 62.62 % are males and 37.38 % are females respectively. The Cultivators population in Anantnag district is 36.18 %, out of which males are 43.06 % and females 56.94 % respectively. Similarly, the Agricultural laborer's population is

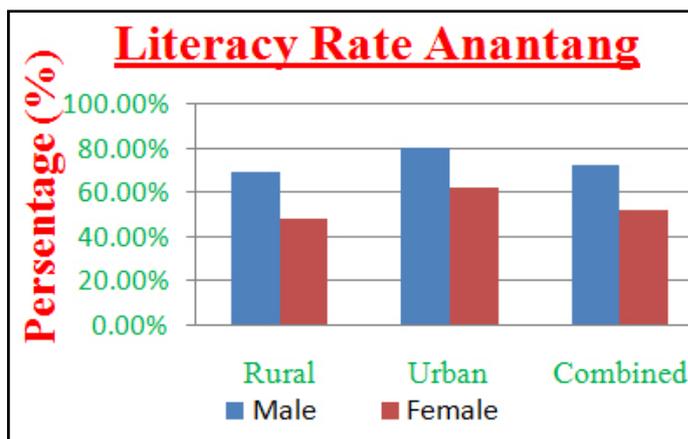
Literacy Rate:

Literacy is a fundamental human right and foundation for lifelong learning. It is fully essential to social and human development in its ability to transform lives. The literacy refers to the ability to read and write. Literacy is essential for eradicating poverty and mental isolation, for cultivating peaceful and friendly international relations and permitting the free play of demographic processes (Chandna, 1980, p 98). The sector wise literacy rate of Anantnag is given in a table as: 19.6 %, out of which males are 68.67 % and females are 31.33 %. The Household Industry workers population is 4.19 %, out of which 42.26 % are males and 57.74 % are females, while the other working population is 40.04 %, out of which 79.48 % are males and 20.52 are females respectively.

Table 6 : Literacy Rate (%) Anantnag 2011

Sector	Male	Female	Total
Rural	69.59	48.49	59.24
Urban	80.71	62.41	71.97
Combined	72.66	52.19	62.69

Source: Census Department



Analysis

With regards to average Literacy Rate of Anantnag in 2011 was 62.69 %. If things are looked out at gender wise, male and female Literacy was 72.66 % and 52.19 % respectively. The average Literacy rate of rural sector of Anantnag district in 2011 was 59.24 %. The male and female Literacy Rate was 69.59 % and 48.49 % respectively in rural sector. Similarly, the average Literacy Rate of urban sector of Anantnag district in 2011 was 71.97 %, while male and female Literacy Rate was 80.71 % and 62.41 % respectively. Thus, district Anantnag's literacy is characterized with sharp differences between the literacy rate of males and females; of rural and urban areas. The females in district Anantnag were considered as a dutiful home bird and there were not many opportunities for them to participate in the economic struggle. Added to it were the factors of general poverty, prevalence of early marriage and prejudices against their mobility, all of which had kept the females in Anantnag far behind their male counterparts in matters of literacy. These rural-urban differentials in the literacy rates of the district Anantnag population emanate from the differences in the type of economy, social life (Religious factor) and migratory patterns of two areas.

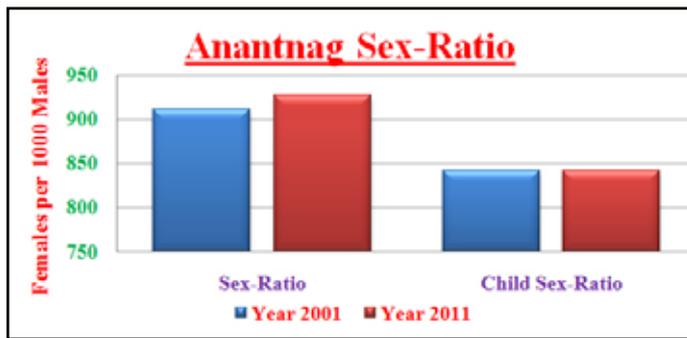
Sex-Ratio

Among various elements of population composition, sex-composition holds a prime place for population geographers. Sex-ratio is the number of females per 1000 males. The separate data for males and females are important for various types of planning and for the analysis of other demographic characteristics such as natality, mortality, migration, marital status, economic characteristics etc. The Anantnag districts sex-ratio is given below in a table as under:

Table 7 : Sex-Ratio Anantnag

Year	Sex-Ratio	Child Sex-Ratio
2001	911	841
2011	927	841

Source: Census Department



Analysis

With regards to Sex-ratio of Anantnag, it stood at 927 per 1000 male compared to 2001 with 911 per 1000 male. The average national Sex-ratio in India is 940 per 1000 male in 2011. The Sex-ratio of Anantnag is below the national level according to 2011 census. The Child Sex-ratio is 841 girls per 1000 boys compared to figure of 841 girls per 1000 boys of census 2001 data. Thus, Anantnag like other districts of India is characterized by a considerable deficiency of females in its population. But there is slight increase in the Sex-Ratio of district Anantnag of 16 females from 2001 to 2011. The Child Sex-Ratio is low as compared to Sex-Ratio due to high Crude Death Rate (CDR), while Sex-Ratio is high due to migration of females from other districts (marriage).

Conclusion

The analysis of demographic profile of Anantnag district reveals following facts:

- A. There was change of 38.58 % in the population compared to population to 2001. The Anantnag district shows both negative and positive growth rate of population from 1961-2011.
- B. The tehsil Anantnag is highly dense populated tehsil out of six tehsils of the district Anantnag with 33.82 % population and least sparsely dense tehsil is Shangus with 06.85 % population.
- C. Out of total population of the district Anantnag , rural sector consists of 73.23 % population (51.64 % males and 48.36 % females) and urban sector consists of 26.23 % population (52.58 % males and 47.42 %).
- D. In 2011, the figure of total population was 10.79 lacs. Out of which 36.06 % was Independent population and 63.85 % Dependant population.
- E. The total working population of Anantnag was 389684 persons (36.06 %), out of which 62.62 % was males and 37.38 % was respectively. The cultivator's population was 36.18 %, Agricultural laborers population 19.6 %, House Hold Industry Workers population 4.19 %, Others Workers population 40.40 %.
- F. The average literacy rate in 2011 was 62.69 %, out of which male 72.66 % and 52.19 % respectively. The average literacy rate of rural sector was 59.24 %, similarly the average literacy rate of urban sector was 71.97 %.
- G. With regard to sex-ratio, it stood 927 per 1000 compared to 2001 with 911 per 1000 male. The child sex-ratio was 841 girls per 1000 boys compared to 841 girls per 1000 boys of census 2001.

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