

PREFACE

The need to consider demographic variables in Development Planning has been widely recognized. The importance of demographic factors in planning derives from their nature as both determinants and consequences of social and economic development. The size, growth, composition and the distribution of the population are considered basic in the determination of consumption needs as well as production and employment goals. These factors are also involved in all the sectoral plans which concern certain segments of the population, such as, children, youth, working adults and the elderly, urban and rural population etc.. Population Census is the single most important source for such data. The 1991 Population Census data has been analyzed and presented in this volume.

Demographic factors relevant to planning, such as, age-sex distribution, spatial distribution of the population, internal migration and urbanization, economic activity and employment; and those factors which can be expected to undergo change, directly or indirectly, as a result of planned development process, such as, mortality, fertility, population growth and composition, family and household; have all been included in the present analysis. Also included are other developmental aspects having inter-relationships with population, such as, educational development, environment, and female status. A discussion of the population policy and programmes, and an account of the organization of the 1991 population census and data quality have also been presented. In all, fifteen topics have been included in this volume.

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