

Chapter - 25

Rajasthan : Population and Tribes

All the people residing at a particular time in a state is called the population of that state. Man is the producer as well as consumer of the resources and services of the earth. He is at the centre of the entire economy as producer and consumer. By studying population, the total man power required for the production in the state and the total quantity of the things and services required for them can be estimated. The knowledge about the quality level of population is acquired by demographic characteristics such as literacy, sex ratio etc. Population census is done after every 10 years in our country and state. In India, population census is a subject of the union list. By means of it, information related with the various aspects of the people, residing here is collected, analysed and published by the population directorate. The latest population census 2011 is the second population census of the 21st century and is the seventh after independence.

Characteristics of Population of Rajasthan

1. In terms of area, Rajasthan is on the first place in India and on eighth place in terms of population.
2. Rajasthan has 10.41% of the total area of India and 5.66% of the total population.
3. According to 2011 census, density of population in Rajasthan is 200 persons per square kilometre.
4. During 2001 to 2011, decadal growth rate of population was 21.31% that is much higher

than the average of India. (17.70%)

5. The highest growth rate in the state is recorded in Barmer district (32.50%) and minimum population growth rate in Sriganganagar district. (10.00%)
6. Very high disparity is found in the distribution of population in Rajasthan.
7. In terms of sex ratio, there are 928 females per 1000 males in the state, that is 15 less than of the country's sex ratio. (943)
8. In Rajasthan, a rapid growth of the population was recorded in the 20th century. In the first 50 years of this century, there has been growth of one and a half times and in the later 50 years, almost three times.
9. The literacy percentage in Rajasthan is 66.10%. Highest literacy percentage is in Kota district (76.60 %) and lowest is in Jalore district (54.90%)

Distribution of Population

The analysis of the population distribution and the pattern of density is the basis of the study of the demographic characteristics of an area. The distribution of the population indicates about the regional pattern of distribution, Whereas the population density shows the proportional relationship between population and area. The meaning of population distribution is that how many people live in different regions.

In Rajasthan, there is high disparity in distribution of population. There is high concentration of population in some parts of the state and in other parts, there is low population concentration. Normally, the western and north western parts of the Aravali mountain range, the population is scarce and dispersed, whereas in eastern and north eastern plains, there is dense population.

Scattered concentration of population is found in some fertile areas and mining areas of Aravali region. In western desert region, the population is centralized around scattered water resources. Thus, in Rajasthan the population distribution is affected and controlled by distribution of rainfall, availability of water, soil fertility and economic development. The factors affecting distribution of population are as follows:-

(i) Physical Factors : The main physical factors affecting the distribution of the population are terrain, climate, soil, vegetation and irrigation facilities.

(ii) Economic Factors : The main economic factors affecting the distribution of population are minerals, urbanization, industrial development and transportation.

(iii) Social and Cultural Factors : The main social and cultural factors affecting the distribution of the population are displacement and migration of labour.

(iv) Political Factors.

Population Growth :

The increase in the number of inhabitants of a particular area in a particular period is called the population growth. If the conditions are favourable for human life in any area, supply of food items is continued and there is no natural calamity, then population grows there over time. On the contrary, if the supply of food items is less and natural calamities occur then there is decrease in population.

The population growth is dependent on three factors Birth, Death and Migration.

Population growth= Total Birth- (Total death ± migration)

The equation of these three factors changes the population. The first two factors are called the biological factors. If population increases due to the difference between birth and death, it is known as natural increase of population and if population decreases then it is called natural decrease in population. When the difference between immigration and emigration is added to natural increase/decrease, only proper assessment of population growth can be done.

Migration means, change of residence by a person. Many natural, social, economic and political causes are responsible for the migration. A person departs from one place is called emigration and arrival of person is called immigration. Table 25.1 shows all the important aspects of the population of the state.

Table 25.1 Rajasthan : Decadal Population

Census Years	Population (in Crores)	Density Per Sq. km	Growth Rate	Literacy Rate in percentage	Sex ratio (Per Thousand)
1901	1.03	30	-	-	905
1911	1.10	32	+6.7	3.41	908
1921	1.03	30	-6.3	3.25	876
1931	1.17	34	+14.1	3.96	907
1941	1.39	41	+18.0	5.46	906
1951	1.60	47	+15.2	8.02	911
1961	2.02	59	+26.4	15.21	908
1971	2.58	75	+27.8	19.07	911
1981	3.43	100	+32.4	24.38	919
1991	4.40	129	+28.4	38.55	910
2001	5.64	165	+28.3	61.03	922
2011	6.85	200	+21.3	66.10	928

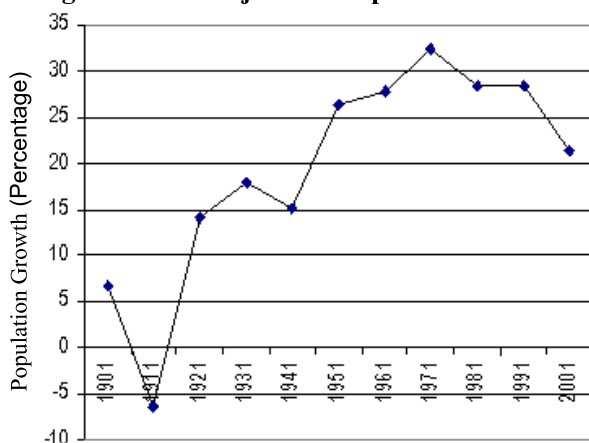
It is clear that in Rajasthan, in the 20th century only during 1911-21, there was a decrease in the population. The great famine of 1918 and spread of epidemic are the main reasons of this. The decreasing growth rate in last three decades since 1991 is an indicator of the success of the family welfare programme and the economic development of the state.

The population growth of the Rajasthan is shown in the Diagram 25.1 The growth in the population of Rajasthan can be divided into 3

periods.

1. **Slow population growth period (1901-1941)-** During this period due to famine, epidemic, lack of health facilities, the population increased steadily.
2. **Moderate population growth period (1941-1971) -** During this period the population grew at a moderate pace, due to the expansion in irrigated area, planned economic development, Improvement in the health service etc. In this period, the mortality rate decreased more than the birth rate Hence the population growth rate remained moderate in this period.

Diagram 25.1 : Rajasthan Population Growth



3. **Rapid population growth period (after-1971) -** In this period, due to access of health facilities to the villages and economic development, mortality decreased quickly. But birth rate did not decrease with the same pace due to child marriage, social backwardness, superstitions etc. Hence, the population grew rapidly during this period . In 2013, the birth rate was 25.6 per thousand but the mortality rate dropped to 6.5 per thousand. In this period, the high birth rate in comparison to death rate led to rapid population growth.

In the beginning of the 20th century the population of Rajasthan was 1 crores. Which took 63 years to become 2 crores. But after that, the population of the state took 16 years to become 3 crores, 11 yrs to become 4 crores and only 8 years to

become 5 crores and only 7 years to become 6 crores.

According to the data on decadal growth (2001-2011) the growth rate of more than 26% was in Barmer, Jaisalmer, Jodhpur, Banswara, Jaipur and Jalore. While the growth rate of less than 16% was recorded in the district of Ganganagar, Jhunjhunu, Pali and Bundi.

The remaining districts of Rajasthan experienced growth rate between 16 and 26%. The decadal growth rate of population (2001-2011) decreased by 7% which indicates that the rate of population growth will decline in the 21st century. The state will have economic development.

Density of Population

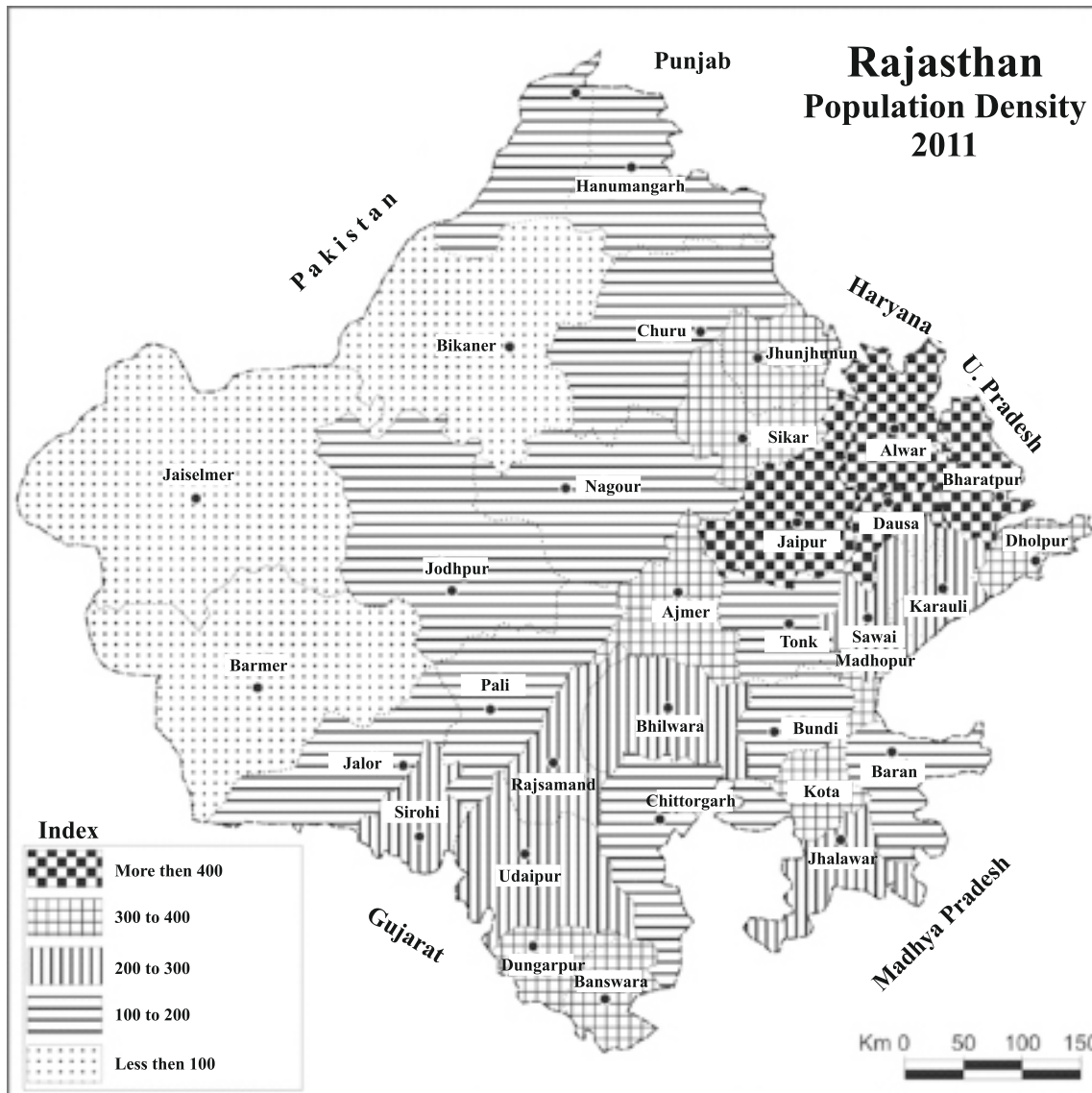
The number of persons living per square kilometre area is called the density of population. It is calculated by the following formula :

$$\text{Density of population} = \frac{\text{Total population}}{\text{Total area}}$$

According to the 2011 census of Rajasthan, the density of population is 200 person per square kilometre. In table 25.2 and map 25.1, the

Density (Persons/square km)	No. of Districts	Districts
1. Highest(more than 400)	04	Jaipur,,Bharatpur, Dausa and Alwar
2. High (300to 400)	07	Dholpur, Banswara, Kota, Dungarpur, Jhunjhunu, Sikar, Ajmer
3. Medium (200 to 300)	07	Sawai Madhopur , Sirohi, Bhilwara, Karoli, Udaipur, Rajsamand, Jhalawar,
4. Low (100 to 200)	12	Tonk, Chittorgarh, Pratapgarh, Bundi, Nagaur, Hanumangarh, Ganganagar, Baran, Jalore, Pali, Jodhpur, Churu
5. Lowest	03	Bikaner, Barmer, Jaisalmer

It is clear from the table 25.2 and map 25.1 that in eastern plain of Rajasthan population density is more, whereas the population density of western desert district is very low. There are 18 districts of the state whose density is more than the state average(200). Jaipur district has the highest population density of 595 persons per square km in Rajasthan. While it is only 17 persons per square km in Jaisalmer district.



Map 25.1 : Rajasthan : Population Density

Sex Ratio

In a given population sex ratio indicates ratio of males and females. It is expressed as number of females per thousand males.

$$\text{Sex Ratio} = \frac{\text{Total female population}}{\text{Total male population}} \times 1000$$

To understand social needs, consumption pattern, employment etc of the community, knowledge of sex ratio is necessary. Other demographic characteristics such as population

growth, subsistence rate, occupational structure, migration etc. are greatly influenced by sex ratio.

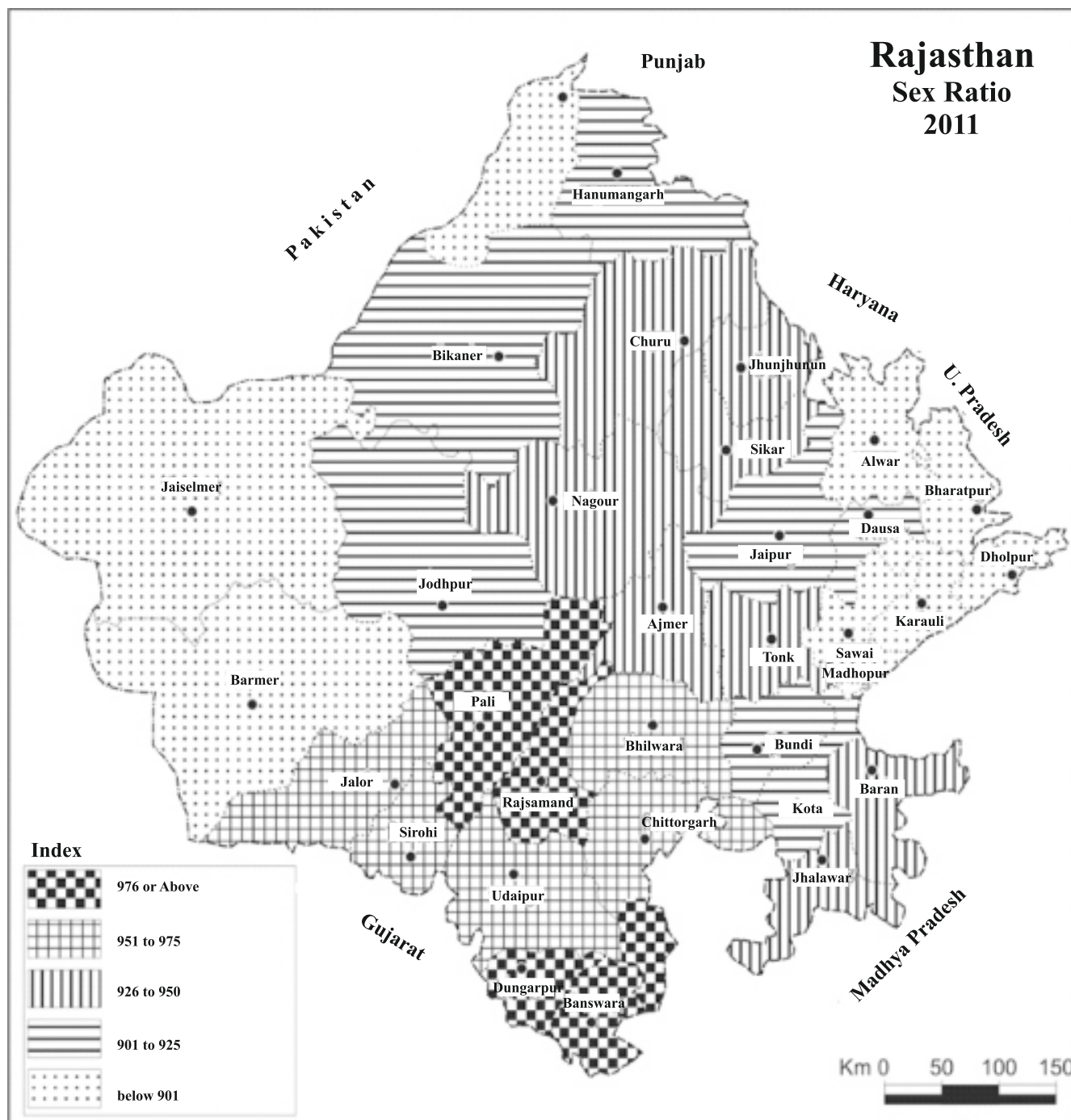
Sex ratio in Rajasthan varied between 900 to 922 in the last century. Compared to 2001, there has been an increase of six basic points in sex ratio in 2011. There are approximately 3.56 crore males and 3.30 crores females in the total population of Rajasthan. There are 928 females per 1000 males in the state. This ratio is lower than the national average of 940 by twelve. In context of India, Rajasthan is ranked 21st in sex ratio.

In India except in the state of Kerala, the

proportion of females is less than males in all other states. In the western, Eastern and Northern districts of Rajasthan, sex ratio is lower than the state's average. In central Rajasthan and southern Rajasthan, sex ratio is higher than the state's average.

According to census 2011, there is no district in Rajasthan, which has a sex ratio of 1000 or more.

In the year 2011, the child sex ratio (0-6years) has remained 888 in the state. It is much lower than the average sex ratio of Rajasthan (928). A major reason for its excessive decline is female



Map 25.2 : Rajasthan : Sex Ratio 2011

infanticide. Serious efforts are to be made in this direction, otherwise the number of females will be very low In the coming years which can cause imbalance in our social structure. The following factors are responsible for the lowering sex ratio in Rajasthan.

- Due to the male dominated society, preference is given to sons, as a result the girls get less facilities of food, health and education.
- Due to the child marriage, girls have to face the burden of motherhood at a tender age, which increases the possibility of their death at the time of delivery.
- In the name of maintaining the generation, preference is given to boys. Dowry death are

also responsible for the decline of sex ratio.

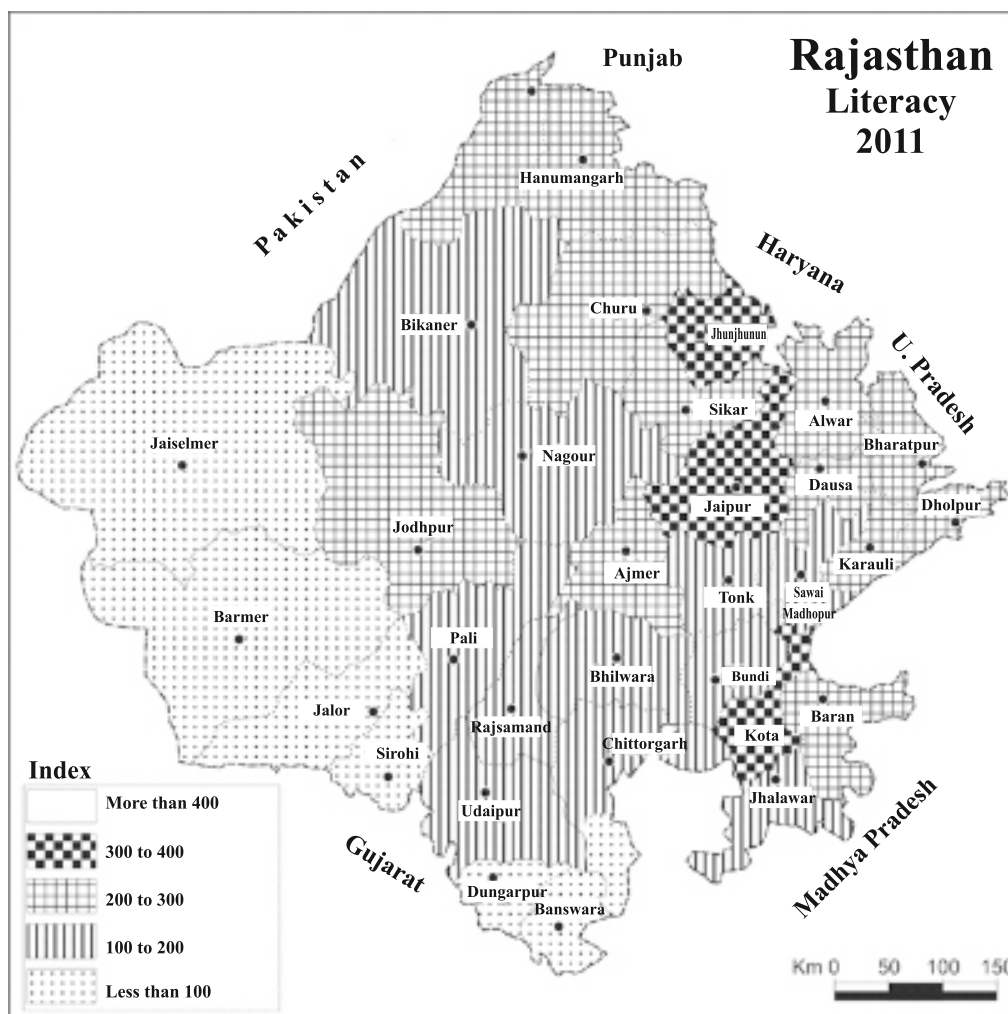
- Due to the facility of sex determination before birth, female foetus is aborted.

Literacy

Literacy is an indicator of quality of the population, which is a true and reliable indicator of the socio-economic development of a particular area. The literacy rate can be calculated by the following formula -

$$\text{Literacy Rate} = \frac{\text{Total literate population}}{\text{Population of seven years or more than 7 years}} \times 100$$

The factors affecting this are the levels of economic development, urbanization, living



Map 25.3 : Rajasthan : Literacy 2011

standard, social status of females, availability of various educational facilities and government policies.

In the context of India, Rajasthan has been backward in case of literacy. The average literacy rate of India was 74.04 % in 2011 whereas Rajasthan's average literacy rate was 67.06 %. There are only two states in the country, namely Arunachal Pradesh and Bihar, which have lower literacy rate than Rajasthan. There is less literacy rate amongst females in the state than males. In 2011, the male literacy rate is 79.2 % and female literacy rate is 52.1 %. In last 100 years, the literacy rate increased from 3.41 % to 38.55 % in 1991 and in 2011 it became 67.06 %. After independence, the literacy rate has increased rapidly in the first fifty years. In the first fifty years of twentieth century the growth rate was only 4.61 %. After independence, between 1951-2011 the growth became 59.4 %. Kota is the most literate district in the state, where 76.60 % people are literate. The lowest literacy is in Jalore district (54.90 %). During the years 2001 to 2011, the highest increase in literacy rate was 10.90% in Dungarpur.

The Tribes

Rajasthan's rainbow coloured cultural environment is made even more attractive by the tribes of the state. The tribes are also known as vanvasi or girijan. Each tribe has its own specific identity, social system and culture from which we get the knowledge of ancient cultural heritage of Rajasthan. Tribes mainly live in the mountains, plateaus and forest areas. Forest products or hunting and primitive types of agriculture and animal husbandry are the means of livelihood of the tribes.

According to the census 2011, the tribal population of Rajasthan is 92.39 lacs, which is 13.48 % of the total population. Rajasthan is on sixth place in India in terms of the number of tribal people. The state's maximum tribal population 15.25 lacs is in Udaipur district. Rajasthan's 95% tribals reside in rural areas. Meena, Bhil, Garasia, Saharia, Damor,

Kathori, Kanjar Sansi etc. are the main tribes of the state. The other small tribal communities of the state are Dhanka, Kokna, Nayaka, Patelia etc. also reside in the state. In the eastern plains and plateau region of the state there is an abundance of Meena tribes. Whereas the Aravali area has a majority of Bheel tribes. In Sirohi, Pali and Udaipur districts - Garasia, Shahbad and Kishangarh tehsil of Baran-sahariya and in Banswara and Dungarpur Damor tribes are found. The distribution of the tribes of Rajasthan is given in the map 25.3.

All the tribes have the following features :

1. These human groups often live in forests, inaccessible hilly and plateau areas, away from the urban society.
2. Their life styles are closer to nature and far from artificiality.
3. They have their own specific dialect, culture, settlements, economic activity and social structure, which separate them from other societies.
4. They are involved in primitive economic activities such as collecting fruits and tubers, catching fish from rivers, hunting animals in dense forests, shifting agriculture, wages worker etc.

After independence, with the government efforts and interaction with the external society, there has been a change in every aspect of the tribal people of Rajasthan and they are coming nearer to the mainstream of development. The description of the tribes of Rajasthan is summarized as follows.

(a) Meena

Meena tribe stands first in term of tribal population in Rajasthan. It is found in all areas of Rajasthan. They reside mainly in the districts of Jaipur, Dausa, Sawai Madhopur, Karauli, Alwar, Tonk, Bharatpur and Udaipur. It is richest and most educated amongst the tribes of Rajasthan. Meena community believes that their origin is from the Matsyaavatar, which is the first incarnation of Lord

Vishnu. The prevailing word Meena. Meena is originally the distorted form of the Sanskrit word 'meen'. Meen means fish. The historical fact is that, since ancient times, due to the excess of Meena community in the land of Alwar, Bharatpur and Jaipur districts, this belt was known as Matasya territory. The maximum population of Meena tribe is in Jaipur district. Two groups of Meenas are found-

(i) Zamidar meena and (ii) Chokidar meena.

Apart from this, the other groups of Meena are Adiya Meena, Rawat Meena, Chauthia Meena, Chamaria Meena and Bhil Meena. There is no marriage relationship between them. In Meena Puran, written by Muni Magan Sagar, there is a mention of 5200 Gotra, 32 Tado and 13 Palo. It is clear that this community is inhabiting the north eastern Rajasthan since long period of time.

Social Life : In the Meena tribe marriage relationship, natedari and blood relations are considered important. In ancient times, Brahma and Gandharva marriage system was in practice in Meena tribe. Presently marriage is done according to the customs of other societies. In Meena tribe the marriage of the daughter is usually done at a young age but the Gauna is done only at marriageable age. The joint family system is prevalent in Meena tribe but family is father dominating. The issueless couple has the right to adopt child.

The 'Panchayat' occupies an important place in the social control in the meenas. The traditional panchayat of the meenas has 4 levels namely- gram panchayat, gotra panchayat, regional panchayat and chorasi panchayat. In these social disputes related to 'Naata Marriage', Divorce, 'Mausar', characterlessness, loans etc. are resolved by the panchayat. The 'chorasi panchayat' is the biggest panchayat.

The people of Meena tribe are religious and have a strong religious faith in fairs and festivals. The fairs of Meena are organized at Mahavir ji, Ganesh ji of Sawai Madhopur and the temples of

'Jeen Mata' at Rewasa in Sikar. The Meena people dance and sing on the occasion of various festivals and functions. The females mainly sing the songs of deities. 'Neja' dance is performed at Kherwara and Dungarpur on the third day of 'Holi'. The males (Meena) wear a dhoti and 'Kamiz' and wear a turban on the head. The females use 'Ghagara', Kanchali and Odhni.' With the spread of education, the people residing in the urban areas have started using modern outfits as pants and shirts. The male and female Meenas have a craze for tattoo making. They take 'shagun' (auspicious) seriously.

The Meena tribe has a cordial relation with the other section of the society. Education has spread rapidly in the Meena society. These people have benefitted more from the reservation policy, as compared to the other tribes. Today, this tribal society of north-eastern Rajasthan has made its specific place in all the govt. jobs on the basis of education. Thousands of Meena are posted in administrative, teaching, police and army jobs.

Economy : The Meenas are primarily agriculturist, who do animal husbandry along with farming. 'Bataidari' (crop sharing) farming is also prevalent in the Meena tribe. With the spread of education, these people have inclined towards govt. jobs and other professions. Presently, due to the reservation in govt. jobs, their socio-economic conditions have become more strong compared to the other communities.

(b) Bhil

The Bhils occupy the second place in terms of tribal population of Rajasthan. The Bhils mainly reside in the districts of Banswara, Dungarpur and Udaipur of Southern Rajasthan. It is the oldest tribe of India. They speak bhili and vagri dialects. Socially these people are patrilineal, Economically they are farmers and traditionally they are archers.

The word Bhil comes from 'Bilu' which means people who keep a bow and arrow. Due to constant struggle, the Bhils are expert warriors. Their habitat is uneven and forested lands. Their houses are built

up of bamboo and wood. The roofs are built of khaprail. The Bhils residing on the higher hills are called 'Paalvi' and the Bhils residing in the plains are called 'Vagri.' They have a dark complexion, broad nose, dry hair and protruding jaw.

Social Life : There are several patrilineal gotras in Bhils which are called 'Atak'. The marriage in bhils take place in another gotra apart from one's own gotra. Various types of marriages such as- Mor Bandhiya marriage, marriage by capture, levirate marriage, marriage by exchange, marriage by service and marriage by purchase are prevalent in the Bhils.

In comparison to joint families, nuclear families are more common in the Bhils. There are several gotras among Bhils such as katara, tabiyad, Roth, Pargi.

Amongst the Bhils, the head of the village is called 'Gameti', the person performing incarnation is called 'Bhopa' and the one performing religious activities is called 'Bhagat'. Now- a- days, elected 'Panch' and Sarpanch have become the head of the village. Their smaller villages are called 'Fala' and the bigger ones are called 'Paal'.

The famous 'Beneshwar' fair of the Bhil community takes place every year on the full moon day '(Poornima)' of the month 'Maagh' on confluence of the rivers Mahi, Som and Jakham. The Bhil community gathers at the Beneshwar Dhaam for the holy bath, worship Lord Shiva and to gain virtue. Gawri and Ghoomar are the main dances of the Bhils. The worship of goddess Parvati, 'Gavri' festival in the month of shrawan is their specific festival.

The males among Bhils wear a kameez or 'Angrakhi' and a tight-fitted Dhoti 'hepada' and a turban 'Potya' on the head. Ghaghra, loogdi and choli constitute the female outfits.

The Bhil males and females wear ornaments made up of metals like silver, brass and nickel etc. Tattoo-making is also common. Along with all gods-goddesses of the Hindus the Bhils worship the local

deities (Dharal, Birsa Munda, Kalaji Goraji, Mataji, Govind Guru, Lasodia Maharaj etc.)

Economy : Economically the bhils are very poor tribe. They are nomads. But now at many places, they have started farming activities. The farming done on the hill slopes is called 'Chimata' and the farming done in the plain areas is called 'Dajiya'. They catch fishes by prongs from ponds and rivers. They do the hunting of birds and animals in the forests using bows and arrows and nets. Children and females collect several forest products like medicinal herbs, fruits, gum, ber, mahua, custard apple, honey, wood, etc. and sell them in the market to buy things of their need. They also rear animals along with farming. Presently, some Bhils have started working as wage labourers in nearby cities and towns. The 'Mahua' tree has a significant place among the Bhils.

(c) Garasiya

The Garasiya is the third largest tribe of Rajasthan. Abu Raod and Pindwara tehsil of Sirohi, Bali of Pali district and Gogunda and Kotra tehsil of Udaipur are the dominating areas of the Garasiya tribe. The Bhakar area of Abu Raod is considered to be the region of their origin. Before the coming of the rajputs, the garasiya ruled in the mountain areas of Sirohi, Pindwara and Aburoad. The people of Garasiya tribe consider themselves to be the descendants of the Chauhan Rajputs. There are many similarities between them and the Bhils in terms of houses, life-style, dialects, bows and arrows. Their villages are found scattered on the hills. Their houses are called 'Gher' and villages are called 'Faliya.' These people generally built their houses on the slopes of the mountains. The people of a single gotra reside in a village.

Social Life : Three kinds of marriage are prevalent in the Garasiya. 'Mor Badhiya' in which there are feras. Peharawana marriage has least feras. In 'Tadana marriage' the bridegroom side pays the value of bride to the bride family. Widow marriage is also prevalent in them.

The people of Garasiya community live in the form of a nuclear family. The father is the head of the family. The system of adopting a son is also prevalent in the society. From the viewpoint of social environment, the Garasiya are divided into 3 sections- Motiniyat, Nenki Niyat and Nichli Niyat.

There is a special importance of caste Panchayat in the garasiya society. There are caste Panchayats at the village and Bhakar level, by means of which both economic and physical punishments are given. The head of the panchayat is called 'Sehlot'.

Several fairs are organized every year at the local, divisional and large level, in this tribal belt. The bigger fairs are famous by the name of 'Mankharo Melo.' The Koteswar fair near Ambaji, the Chetar vichitar fair on the Kotra Kosina Road near Devla and the Gangaur fair of Gogunda on the baisakh Krishna Panchmi are their important fairs. The Garasiya boys also choose their life-partners in the fairs. Valar, Garba, Gair, Moriya and Gaur are the main dances of Garasiya. They get fully involved in the rhythm while dancing. Their dialect is a mixture of Gujrati, Bhili, Mewari and Marwari.

The Garasiya tribe has a distinct identity in terms of life-style and dressing sense. The Garasiya males wear a dhoti and kameez and wrap a towel on the head. The garasiya females wear dark-colored gaudy clothes. They completely cover their body. Similar to the Bhils, the garasiya also have a tradition of tattoo making. The garasiya females get tattoo on their forehead and chin. The garasiya people worship Shiva, Bhairav and Durga.

Economy : The economy of the Garasiya tribe is based on agriculture, animal husbandry, wood-cutting and collection of forest products. Now-a-days these people go to towns and cities for labour work. 'Hari Bhawri' is a form of community farming by the Garasiya. These people store their food grains in 'Sohri' (Kothi).

(d) Sahariya

The only most backward tribe of Rajasthan,

which has been included in primitive tribe by the Indian government. 98% of the Sahriyas of Rajasthan reside in Kishanganj and Shahbad tehsil of Baran. The word Sahriya comes from the word 'Sahar' of the persian language, which means jungle. The houses of sahriya tribe are called 'Tapri' and 'Topa'. The 'Tapri' is made up of mud, stone, wood and grass. Topa refers to 'Machan' built on trees and logs in dense forest. Their smaller colonies are called 'Sahrana' and villages are called 'Sahrol'.

Nuclear families are found in sahriya tribe. They have a tradition of polygamy. 'Naata' System is also prevalent. The birth of a girl is considered to be auspicious in Sahriya tribe. The fair organized at Sitabari near Kelwada in Baran district is their holy place. They consider Valmiki Rishi as their 'Kuldevta'.

These people wear dhoti, kameez and 'Safa' (headgear), the females wear Ghaghara, Odhni and full-sleeve blouse. The females get tattoo on their bodies. The main basis of the sahriya economy is forest products and shifting agriculture. The percentage of literacy is very low in this tribe.

(e) Damor

This tribe mainly resides in the districts of Dungarpur, Banswara and Udaipur. The majority of Damor reside in Seemalwada Panchayat Samiti of Dungarpur district. The Damor people are also called 'Damriya'. The damors consider their origin from the Rajputs. Nuclear family is prevalent in the Damor also. The father is the head of the family. The head of the Panchayat in the Damor community is called 'Mukhi.' The main basis of marriage in this tribe is the bride price.

The bride-groom's family has to pay the bride price to the father of the girl. Polygamy is also prevalent in them. 'Chhela Bawaji' and 'Gyaras ki Raiwari' are the major fairs of the Damor.

These people are mainly farmers and do the farming of maize and rice. Hunting and collection are also their means of livelihood.

Kathhodi, Kanjar and Saansi are the other

major tribes of Rajasthan. The Kathori reside in Kotra, Jhadol and Sarada panchayat samiti of Udaipur. Due to being skilled in making katha from the tree of kher, they are called 'Kathodi'.

Kanjar are mainly found in Kota, Bundi, Baran, Jhalawar, Chittorgarh, Sawai Madhopur, Alwar, Bhilwara and Ajmer. The origin of the word kanjar is from 'Kananchar' which means the one roaming in the jungle. They are known for theft and crimes but they never lie after sipping 'Hakam raja ka pyala'. These people have a window in the backside of their houses in order to run but they don't have a door. The kuldevi of kanjar tribe is 'Chhauth Mata.' The kanjar females are expert in singing and dancing.

The Saansi tribe mainly reside at Bharatpur and Ajmer districts. They are nomadic and hunting of wild animals and small handicrafts are the main basis of their livelihood.

Effect of Modernity on the Tribes

1. The forested areas are decreasing due to indiscriminate cutting of the forest and most of the remaining forests are reserved and conserved by the government, this has resulted in to an adverse effect on their lives.
2. Their economy has suffered a setback due to the decrease in forest products and wild animals and the decrease in agricultural productivity due to soil erosion. In certain areas, their means of livelihood have become so limited that they have started activities of dacoity, theft and crimes.
3. Due to limited agricultural land, increasing population and the limited local resources, they are bound to go to work on daily wages to the cities and towns, where they are exploited economically.
4. Due to the interaction with cities, there has been a drastic change in their food habits, dressing sense and housing.

5. Due to increasing trend of addiction, their economic condition is not getting better.
6. Presently, due to the spread of education, awakening has increased in them. They have also started doing government jobs.

After independence, several plans and programmes are being run by the govt. for the development of tribal areas. Tribal Area Sub Plan (TADA), Modified Area Development Programme (MADA), cluster plan, Scattered Tribe Development Programme, clean project, Tribal Area Silk Worm Rearing Programme, Eklavya Yojna, Rukh Bhayla Programme, Employment Programme are being run which has resulted in significant progress in the development of the tribal people.

IMPORTANT POINTS

1. The population of Rajasthan has increased rapidly in the second half of the 20th century
2. According to the census 2011, the total population of Rajasthan is 6.85 crores.
3. There is an excessive dissimilarity in the population distribution in Rajasthan.
4. According to the census 2011, the population density of Rajasthan is 200 persons per square km.
5. Literacy and sex-ratio are the indicators of measuring the quality level of population.
6. The scheduled tribes have a percentage of 13.18 in the total population of the state.
7. The literacy of Rajasthan is 67.07%. Kota is the most literate district (76.60) of the state.
8. The sex-ratio in the state is 928 which is 12 less than the country's ratio 940.
9. Meena, Bhil, Garasiya, Sahriya, Damor Kathodi, Kanjar and Saansi are the major tribes of the state.
10. The social and economic conditions of the tribes has improved rapidly due to the efforts of the govt.

EXERCISE

Multiple Choice Type Questions

- According to the census 2011, the population of Rajasthan is -
(a) 6.85 crores (b) 6.54 crores
(c) 5.85 crores (d) 5.54 crores
- Which district has the least literacy in Rajasthan ?
(a) Jaisalmer (b) Barmer
(c) Jalore (d) Banswara
- Out of the following, which one is not a tribe ?
(a) Bhil (b) Khateek
(c) Meena (d) Damor
- The origin of the Meena community is considered to be from -
(a) Varah Avatar (b) Kurm Avatar
(c) Matsya Avatar (d) Krishna Avatar
- How many sub-section are there in the Meena tribe ?
(a) 2 (b) 3
(c) 4 (d) 6
- The 'Neja' dance is performed by-
(a) The Bhils of Banswara
(b) the Meena of Kherwara
(c) the Bhils of Bhilwara
(d) the Meena of Bharatpur
- The Sahriya tribe is concentrated in-
(a) Mandalgarh Tehsil
(b) Dhariyawad Tehsil
(c) Shahbad Tehsil
(d) Bundi Tehsil.
- The Beneshwar Fair is held on-
(a) Jyaisht Shukla Poornima
(b) Magh Shukla Poornima
(c) Aashad Shukla Poornima
(d) Paush Shukla Poornima

Very Short Answer Type Questions

- Population census is held after a gap of how many years in our state?
- Which place does Rajasthan occupy amongst the states of the country in terms of population?
- In which census year, the population of the state decreased?
- Which district of Rajasthan has the highest sex ratio?
- Name any three tribes of Rajasthan.
- Name any one nomadic tribe.
- Names the fairs of Damor tribe.

Short Answer Type Questions

- Mention any three characteristics of the population of Rajasthan.
- Mention the factors affecting the distribution of population.
- Describe the population distribution in Rajasthan.
- Write a note on the literacy of our state.
- Describe the Sahriya tribe of Rajasthan.
- Name the programmes run by the government for tribal welfare.

Essay Type Questions

- Describe the distribution and density of population in Rajasthan.
- Describe the social system and economic conditions of the Bhil or Meena tribe of Rajasthan.
- Describe the social system and economic conditions of the Garasiya or Sahriya tribe of Rajasthan.

Map / Skill Based Questions

- Show the distribution of population in a map of Rajasthan.
- Show the areas of residence of the major tribes on the map of the state.