UNIT 14 : POPULATION EDUCATION AND ROLE OF TEACHER

UNIT STRUCTURE

14.1 Learning Objectives
14.2 Introduction
14.3 Role of Teacher in Population Education
14.4 Duties and Responsibilities of a Teacher in imparting Population Education
14.5 Let Us Sum Up
14.6 Further Reading
14.7 Answer to Check Your Progress
14.8 Model Questions

14.1 LEARNING OBJECTIVES

After going through this unit, you will be able to

- describe the role of teacher in population education, and
- explain the duties and responsibilities of teacher in imparting population education.

14.2 INTRODUCTION

Population education is an important programme which needs to be implemented in the whole world. For implementation of any educational programme and its effectiveness depends upon largely on the teachers. A teacher is considered as the important agent of social change. S/he is the destiny maker of a country. S/he is a torch bearer to the society. The future of the nation smiles on the various roles that the teacher performs by extinguishing the darkness of ignorance and ignited the light of knowledge in the society. Regarding the rapid growth of population s/he can play an influential role and motivate the people for active participation insolving this burning issue. The teacher can bring awareness among all section of people of the society about the consequences of population growth. S/he

should inspire the students about the population dynamics, population hazards and role of young people in controlling population explosion in future. S/he can teach the students about the importance of small family norms. S/he can inspire the people of the society to participate in various population controlling programmes. So, in this unit we are going to discuss what roles a teacher can perform for successful implementation of population education programmes in society.

14.3 ROLE OF TEACHER IN POPULATION EDUCATION

Teachers not only serve education among students but also play role in nation building. He is the leader of the community. National Policy on Education (1986) boldly opined “No people can rise above the level of its teachers.” Teachers are architects of the nation.Many teachers are considered as leader in their villages. So, they can motivate the people to adopt ‘small family norm’, provide information about the measures to be taken to control the growth of population.

Population education is a new area. It involves the inculcation of attitudes and values in addition to specific knowledge and information, it is necessary for teachers to be convinced of the need for a small family norm for the betterment of the society. The following roles can be identified for teachers in imparting population education:

- Teachers are the backbone of any country. S/he can eradicate blind faith, superstitions, dogma etc. from our society. In the parents-teacher association meetings/he can say about the benefits of small family norm, proper health and hygiene of family, bad effects of rapid growth of population, various measures of controlling birth, nutrition and adult education. S/he can adopt some programmes to check population growth in his/her locality with the help of guardians of the students.
- Generally, population education, being behavioural and multidisciplinary in nature, has a great potential to learn or to find out how best we can impart value system, inculcate socially desirable attitude and proper habits towards population growth. A teacher can play an important

role in developing right kind of value system, inculcating socially desirable attitude and proper habits among students towards the issues related to rapidpo pulation growth and its solution.

- As a teacher s/he should explain to the students that population education is not sex education or family planning. It is a programme of social responsibility. The individual decision will result in our enhanced quality of life for all.
- Teachers exposure to population related issues will help both students and the community in changing their attitude and behaviour in a right direction.
- In the school situation teacher should conduct various governmental and non-governmental programmes aiming at creating awareness among students about population education.
- The teacher should keep relation with the illiterate parents of the locality and their family environment. S/he can make understand these poor illiterate parents how population control or small family helps them to ensure the good future of their wards as well as their quality of life.
- Teacher should inform the community people about the problems of population growth.



ACTIVITY-14.1

Visit area of your locality and collect data regarding numbers of family member, their educational status, economic conditions and their standard of living.



CHECK YOUR PROGRESS

Q 1: Explain the role of teachers on population education.

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14.4 DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES OF TEACHER IN IMPARTING POPULATION EDUCATION

Teacher has an important role in bringing about awareness of population problems and development of desirable attitudes among students regarding population growth. So s/he should be conscious about his/her duties and responsibilities towards society.

- S/he should be aware about the population related problems of his locality.
- Teacher should arrange and participate in the programmes of population control, awareness about HIV.
- S/he should develop awareness about bad effects of population explosion, importance of small family norm, availability of basic needs of people, good health and hygiene.
- In the class room environment, should plan to teach population education by adopting audio-visual aids.
- Create awareness among students about values and beliefs that influence the size of the family.
- Create consciousness about the possible problems of population explosion like economic development of country, problem of education, scarcity of food, quality of life, employment problems etc.
- Teacher should arrange some surveys regarding population dynamics, family size, basic needs of people, and availability of natural resources.
- The teacher should invite parents in various occasions of educational institutions, such as Human Right Day, Environmental Day, HIV\ AIDS control programme etc. S/he should keep close relation with the society.

At different levels of education, population education should be imparted through different subjects and co-curricular activities. Various information's about population can be included in the subjects like geography, history, civics, literature etc. Co-curricular activities include- conducting survey, organizing drama, organizing seminars and discussions,

workshops, study tours, films, displaying maps, charts, paper cuts, bullets etc. pertaining to population education.

Teachers should be given training on population education. As the population education is an important aspect of our society. The teachers should be fully aware of the dynamics of population growth, its causes and consequences. He should relate example of common life to inculcate the spirit of population knowledge among the students.



ACTIVITY-14.2

Organize street play on problems of population explosion in your locality with help of your fellow learners and assess the impact of the activity among the people of the locality.



CHECK YOUR PROGRESS

Q 2: Discuss duties and responsibilities of teachers in imparting population education.

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14.5 LET US SUM UP

- The teacher can bring awareness among all section of people of the society about the consequences of population growth. S/he should inspire the students about the population dynamics, population hazards and role of young people in controlling population explosion. Population education is a new area. It involves the inculcation of attitudes and values in addition to specific knowledge and information, it is necessary for teachers to be convinced of the need for a small

family norm for the betterment of the society.

- As a teacher s/he should explain to the students that population education is not sex education or family planning. It is a programme of social responsibility. The individual decision will result in our enhanced quality of life for all.
- In the school situation teacher should conduct various governmental and non-governmental programmes aiming at creating awareness about population education.
- Teacher should develop awareness about bad effects of population explosion, importance of small family norm, availability of basic needs of people, good health and hygiene.
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14.6 FURTHER READING

1) V. Krishnamacharyulu, School Management and System of Education, Neelkamal Publication Pvt. Ltd.

2) S.K. Nanda, Population Education, DOABA HOUSE, Delhi.