

SIXTH ASIAN  
PARLIAMENTARIANS' MEETING  
ON POPULATION AND DEVELOPMENT  
(March 22–23, 1990)

Asian Population and Development Association

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OPENING CEREMONY

Thursday, March 22, 1990

## Opening Address

Dr. Haryono Suyono  
Chairman  
National Family Planning Coordinating Board

Your Excellency, the Chairman of the Legislative Councils, Your Excellencies, Ministers, Honorable Chairman of the Asian Population and Development Associations, Honorable participants, Ladies and Gentlemen. With a prayer to God Almighty on behalf of the organizing committee, and with the permission of His Excellency, the Chairman of the Indonesian House of Representatives, may I welcome all of you, the participants of this very honorable meeting.

It is indeed a great honor for me to report to you on our reparations for your conference. In preparing for the conference, we have consulted with and have been well-assisted by the Secretariat of the Asian Population and Development Association (APDA), who has organized so many other meetings of this type in the past. Through these series of consultations, may I report to you that the objectives of these meetings are as follows:

First, to exchange experiences with the primary emphasis of sharing information and knowledge among various Asian nations.

Second, to exchange knowledge on the development of strategy and policy appropriate for the 21st Century.

To achieve these objectives, your country reports will be presented to the conference, and several invited papers will also be presented and discussed. One of the important papers we will be discussing is "Population and Development Strategy Toward the 21st Century." We will focus on "Sustainable Development and Future Population Policies."

As we may all be aware, population issues are closely inter-related to global environment, socio-economic development, food and energy supply, and natural resources. Therefore, the conference will also discuss these matters and the linkage to the objectives of your meeting.

To encourage the exchange of views concerning so many different subject matters, we have tried our best to insure that the meeting takes place in a pleasant atmosphere at the Borobudur Hotel, following the official opening this morning.

We are happy to report your Excellencies, that the conference is being attended by about eighty participants from thirteen countries, China, India, Indonesia, Japan, Korea, Malaysia, Nepal, New Zealand, Pakistan, Philippines, Singapore, Sri Lanka, and Thailand.

Also attending are several experts and scholars on population and development issues, representatives from international organizations, such as the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA), the International Planned Parenthood Federations (IPPF), the Asian Forum of Parliamentarians on Population and Development (AFPPD), the Global Committee of Parliamentarians on Population and Development (GCPPD) and the Japan Parliamentarians Federation for Population (JPFP).

For the Asian region, Your Excellencies, this is a very important meeting. The issue of population and development is one of the key issues that our countries are facing. Finding the means and resources to deal with the population issue, especially uncontrolled of population growth is essential for all our countries.

Working together with our parliaments to find solutions and develop programs to address this issue, so that our people have the best possible quality of life is what is our main goal. Hopefully this meeting will contribute to this important effort.

Finally sirs, may I, on behalf of the organizing committee, request Your Excellency, Mr. Kharis Suhud, Speaker of the Indonesian Parliament, to officially open this conference. I thank you.

Opening Address at the Sixth Asian Parliamentarians'  
Meeting on Population and Development

By

Takashi Sato, Vice-Chairman

The Asian Population and Development Association (APDA)

His Excellency Bapak Kharis Suhud, His Excellency Professor Emil Salim and all other members of the audience, thank you very much for the effort all of you have made toward the holding of the Sixth Asian Parliamentarians' Meeting on Population and Development. On behalf of the host of this Meeting, I would like to express my sincere gratitude to all governmental and parliamentary representatives as well as academicians from Indonesia, most notably to Chairman Emil Salim of the Indonesian Forum on Population and Development for his kind consideration and support for this Meeting. His organization has been exceptionally helpful as a co-sponsor of this Meeting. My appreciation should also be extended to all parliamentarians who have found time in their busy schedules of public duties to gather here, as well as to all concerned parties, including UNFPA, which have continued to provide valuable assistance and support for us since the Asian Population and Development Association was founded in 1982.

We have met five times to date as part of our effort to assist all parliamentarians in dealing with issues of population and development in Asia. The first and second meetings were held in Tokyo in 1985 and 1986. Then, the subsequent meeting were also held very successfully in Thailand (1987), Malaysia (1988) and the Philippines (1989), receiving full support from the parliamentarians and other concerned parties of each hosting nation. This year we have come to Indonesia, and I am very grateful to Chairman Suhud and other members of the Parliament for kindly arranging the Opening Ceremony here today.

Jakarta is a city that means a great deal to me. I visited Jakarta for the first time in 1973 as a member of the Japanese delegation led by a former Prime Minister of Japan, late Mr. Kishi that is touring Asia to investigate population problems in the region.

Since that time, I have been deeply involved in population and development and other closely related issues such as food supply, global environment, resources, energy, economic and social development, urbanization as it relates to agricultural development, changing population structure as it manifests itself in aging, employment, education, women's

status, and children's rights. I have considered the resolution of these issues to be vital to promote would peace and prosperity of all human beings.

Furthermore, I recall that the Steering Committee for the "Asian Forum of Parliamentarians on Population and Development" met in this city in October of 1986. On that occasion, I was given an opportunity to meet with President Soeharto, who was awarded the United Nations Population Award last year for his significant contribution in solving various population problems in Indonesia. As I was discussing various population and development issues in much detail, I greatly appreciated the depth of his insight into this field and his determination in executing important population control and development policies.

I must also acknowledge His Excellency Mr. Martono, a former Minister of Transmigration, who has painstakingly pointed out to us that it is extremely important for all Asian parliamentarians to deal with issues concerning population and development from a heightened viewpoint.

A little earlier, I mentioned the Asian Forum of Parliamentarians on Population and Development. As 1989 activities, this Forum had planned for holding an event commemorating UNFPA's 20th anniversary in addition to a special seminar in India this year. I think that it will be worthwhile for us to also discuss the application of the Amsterdam Declaration adopted by UNFPA to Asian countries as well as the issue of sustained development and future tasks in the area of population at this Meeting. In this manner, we will be able to forecast the population issues of the 21st century as part of our effort of UNFPA evaluation. I would like to encourage all of you to actively participate in this discussion.

The Asian Forum of Parliamentarians on Population and Development has now grown to have 20 member countries. This Forum has made vigorous efforts at raising consciousness about the serious nature of population problems on occasions, for example, in 1987 when the world population hit the 5 billion mark and in 1989 when the population in Asia reached 3 billion people accounting for 60% of the world population. The Forum definitely owes a great deal to everyone in this audience who has provided support and assistance along the way.

Furthermore, women parliamentarians in Asia met in New Delhi from March 12 till 14. Following that, the Asian Forum of Parliamentarians on Population and Development has met once every three years and it plans to meet in Bangkok, Thailand

in October. The last meeting of the Forum, its second, was held in Beijing in 1987 in cooperation with the Chinese Government. I believe that Secretary-General Mittal and Mr. Prasop Ratanakorn of the Thai Parliament will give you more information about its October meeting. At any rate, we are expecting to have approximately 200 participants from Asian countries.

Population problems must be resolved through a concerted effort by all concerned countries, while transcending national boundaries, and in this context it is of great significance for us, policy-makers, to gather in one place to exchange opinions and experiences.

The Asian Population and Development Association of Japan has recently conducted a series of surveys in cooperation with people of Nepal and the results of these surveys on basic population and development trends, rural population and agricultural development, etc. will be presented at this meeting.

We were initially planning to make a presentation about population aging in the Asian context, but in response to a request by the Indonesian side we have added the issue of urbanization. We will be distributing a printed material which deals with population aging in Asia for your information.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank all the people who cooperated with us in conducting these surveys in Nepal and Bangladesh.

A new order and manner of international cooperation is necessary as we move into the 1990s in which the world will continue to undergo dramatic changes. Advanced information technology has brought the world closer together, while increasing interdependence among various countries. In other words, no issues can be resolved without a global perspective. In particular, the resolution of population and development issues requires interdisciplinary approaches, and therefore we policy-makers must take appropriate action while listening to what experts in a variety of fields have to say about these important issues.

In reality, Asia is a region which is diverse in race, religion, culture, and so on. It seems to be no exaggeration to say that the problem of population and development which plagues Asian countries may also have a great impact on the rest of the world in the 21st century. There is no single effective cure of this.

We have only two days to tackle this quite significant issue. Although time is limited, as a representative of the sponsoring organization it would be my greatest pleasure if we can reconfirm our own responsibilities in solving the population problem that must be urgently dealt with from a global point of view while actively discussing how we can possibly contribute to world peace as well as to the welfare and prosperity of all human beings.

Thank you.

Address  
By  
Hon. Sat Paul Mittal  
Secretary General  
Asian Forum of Parliamentarians on  
Population and Development

Honorable speaker, Parliament of Indonesia, Honorable Dr. Haryono, Honorable Takashi Sato, Vice Chairman of APDA and Chairman of the Asian Forum, Mr. Jyoti Singh, United Nations Population Fund, Global Committee of Parliamentarians on Population and Development, representatives of the IPPF, my colleague Vice Chairman Mr. Hu Keshi, my colleague Madam Rahmah Osman, dear friends from thirteen countries of the Asian region, Excellencies, Ladies and Gentlemen, I do not know how to put the whole history in a capsule form. What to represent in my report of the Asian Forum here.

But I know it was only a decade back, the year 1980, that two records show the United Nations Population Fund, and I recognize here, the presence of Mr. Singh, that the first Parliamentarian's conference was held in Beijing, the year 1981. It was there that Parliamentarians representing as many as 26 countries of this region decided to form an Asian Forum of Parliamentarians, an organization of their own, because they thought it was time that they organized themselves on a regional level to function not merely as a core group but as an institution to coordinate the activities of the existing national Parliamentary committees and forums as also to promote the formation of similar groups and committees in countries where at that point of time there were no such committees, or no such forums, or no such groups functioning.

I must with great pleasure, say that we have covered a very long distance in the last practically one decade. If I look back, I can very proudly say the present movement, Parliamentarians' Movement all over the world over which we today see in its symbolic manner, as well as its pragmatic and practical one in the shape of the Global Committee, owes much to the endeavors of the Asian Group which was the first in the world to take shape.

Asian Forum can rightly and justifiably be called the father of the Global Movement of Parliamentarians on Population and Development. Asian Forum has made great strides. Today we have as many as twenty-four national parliamentary groups functioning. In this region, the Asian region, where, in total, there are 29 countries in the democratic parliamen-

tary system.

It is no mean achievement that this family of the Asian Forum has been added recently, a national committee from South Korea. From Pakistan, North Korea has also indicated its intention to form a group.

We have groups in small countries like Maldives, Mongolia, Papua New Guinea, Western Samoa. By and by this movement has come to, not only stay, but extend.

We felt that unless Parliamentarians are representatives of the people, themselves involved, not only at their national, federal level, but also at their grass-root level, into the making of the policy, population policy, the health policy of their country, not only at the formulation stage, but also at the implementation stage, not much can be achieved in terms of practical, tangible results.

Mr. Salim and other Ministers here who have been guided with, coming down with, innovative schemes and programs will agree with us, that unless the representatives of the people take it upon themselves, the responsibility of all educating and motivating the people to accept the small family as a way of life, leaving the implementation to mere bureaucrats and our host of bureaucrats will have no intention of running them down. But leaving them merely to bureaucrats would not at all be advisable or practical. I am quoting: "Every internationally known quotation has it that, world war is too important to be left to generals alone." And I add my own: Population is too important to be left to bureaucrats alone.

So it is here that Parliamentarians felt that they must be deeply involved. And it is they, their responsibility to see that the implementation of the national health program, national population program, or family planning program, as they say, at the grass-root level, must have the full backing of their representatives.

A new dimension has been added, and rightly so. And Indonesia can rightly take the credit of very successfully doing that, as understanding the honorable speakers awhile ago. Indonesia is a model for other Asian nations and cultures where we find some kind of a misunderstanding and resultant, not opposition, but we can say non-cooperation from the leaders of religious denominations.

When I go around to various countries in the Asian region where there is a certain amount of commonalty and similarity

of traditions of systems, I find that in some of the countries, some of the religious groups, they are reluctant to support the national programs. But here in Indonesia, it is remarkable! And I must congratulate the President of Indonesia, Mr. Soeharto, through His Excellency, the Honorable Speaker, for achieving this consensus.

It is really wonderfully revealing to see that the religious groups here are out to support the family planning, the national family planning program of Indonesia. That is what has made Indonesia a model for the whole of Asia. I must say that the Asian Forum has to have credit of contributing to the formation of the Global Forum of subregional parliamentary leaders on Human Survival.

Why I mention this, because the very basis of the formation of that Global Forum is the realization among parliamentarians, that, unless we are able to create an environment conducive to a positive meaningful collaboration between parliamentarians and subregional leaders at all levels, not much can be achieved. And I have already quoted the example of Indonesia.

Asian Forum would certainly like to apportion, to take some of the credit for a number of things, including the great conference, the Global Conference, we had two months ago in Moscow. Which was addressed by the Secretary-General and President Gorbachev. That was on Environment and Development and population had a very substantial component in it. I was pleased to see not only parliamentarians but subregional leaders. Grand Mufti of Syria, he made a wonderful remark and he quoted Islam in favor of small families.

Asian Forum recently as my Chairman said, organized the first Asian Women Conference, a parliamentarians conference in New Delhi, because we felt that so far we have been talking of women taking the leadership role in stabilizing population in this part of the world, but we have not made a real effort. The idea was conceived by Rahmah, the Deputy Secretary-General, sitting just in front of me, and another visionary, Akira Matsumura, who is the Executive Director of the Global Committee. The coordinator of the Global Committee was not here today and we may have been 25 countries out of 29 countries in this region that were represented at that conference.

We are happy that if one single achievement of which the Asian forum can really be proud of, is that we are now in a position to claim that women parliamentarians by themselves have adopted a plan of action, which when it comes into

force will certainly bring about radical and revolutionary changes in the outlook of people at all levels, to accept the small family as a way of life.

On this occasion, when we are meeting for the Sixth Annual Meeting of the APDA, I must congratulate my Chairman, who is my Chairman and is also the Vice Chairman of APDA, for providing this excellent opportunity to the Asian Forum, as we have been doing in the past several years for the Asian Forum to meet and deliberate upon matters of very, very vital importance, including the General Assembly that we are going to organize in Bangkok, where we intend to invite 2 members of Parliament from each country with a Parliamentary system as official delegates. But we want to encourage the participation of large delegations from countries which have, and practically all of them have, the population policies and programs, not only by their governments but also by their national groups. And hopefully, we will have women parliamentarians adequately represented in their national delegations to the October General Assembly to the Asian Forum.

With these few remarks I would like to congratulate the APDA for providing this excellent opportunity and also we would like to convey our gratitude, our deep gratitude, to His Excellency, the Speaker of the Indonesian Parliament, for making these splendid arrangements for this meeting.

Thank you very much.

Message from Dr. Nafis Sadik  
Executive Director, UNFPA  
By  
Mr. Jyoti Shankar Singh

Honorable Mr. Speaker, Honorable Mr. Sato, Honorable Mr. Mittal, Your Excellency, Mr. Salim, Dr. Haryono Suyono, Your Excellencies, Distinguished Participants, on behalf of the Executive-Director of the United Nations Population Fund, Dr. Nafis Sadik, I would like to convey to the distinguished Parliamentarians participating in this meeting, our warmest greetings.

As has already been pointed out by one of the previous speakers, Asia's population, which crossed the three billion mark in 1987, constitutes approximately three fifths or 60% of the total world population today. Of the ten most populous countries in the world, six are in Asia. What happens in Asia will definitely have a profound impact on the world's populations trends and prospects.

First of all, I will indicate Asian countries have recognized the urgency and importance of population issues and the relationship with broad development issues. Family planning became a matter of national policy in India and Pakistan in the early 50s. By the early 70s almost all Asian countries had family planning programs in place and a majority of them are pursuing comprehensive population policies. Because of these policies and programs, Asia has the lowest population growth rates among the developing regions.

The countries in East Asia have already achieved a dramatic decline in fertility, and most countries in Southeast Asia are rapidly moving in that direction. The growth rate in Asia fell to 1.8% in the late 80s compared to 2.2% in the 50s. The current growth rates for Latin America and Africa are 2.1% and 3% respectively. However, because of the large population base and rather slow progress in South Asia, with the exception of Sri Lanka, in moderating population growth, Asia still accounts for half the end-world increase. Meeting the population challenge remains one of the urgent three requisites for sustained economic development and environmental protection.

I would like to site two examples, Thailand and Indonesia, which have shown how growth rates can be brought down dramatically, through voluntary family planning programs. Of course family planning programs do not succeed by them-

selves. While availability of an excess, too, of family planning information and services is essential, also essential are widespread literacy, particularly among women, improvement in the role and status of women (a topic which was recently discussed in the Women's Parliamentarians Conference in New Delhi), alleviation of poverty and adequate basic health services. A coordinated program in these inter-related sectors presupposes a strong political commitment, and popular participation.

The literacy rate in Thailand is almost 89% and is expected to reach 100% or as close to it as possible in the near future. The status of women in the Thai society has always been high and the participation of Thai women in the work force has risen dramatically in the past two decades. Indonesia's literacy rate, if I am not mistaken, is around 74% and rising.

Other Asian countries with high literacy rates of 70% or above, include the Republic of Korea, Singapore, Malaysia, China, Sri Lanka and the Philippines. These with the exception of the Philippines are also the countries which have achieved striking successes in family planning. The Philippines remains a special case, as, despite the high literacy rate, it has not succeeded in lowering its growth rate because of several factors: Cultural and social constraints, lack of adequate family planning services and widespread poverty.

In addition to growth, population distribution is the other area of major concern to Asian countries. Rapid urbanization, which is going to be discussed at one of the topics at this conference, has been taking place in many Asian countries, and the problem has been compounded by the extraordinarily rapid growth of metropolitan cities. How to bring about rapid rural development, how to provide basic services in urban slums, how to reduce industrial pollution, and how to achieve technological modernization without encouraging further concentrations of populations in metropolitan areas, are some of the major issues facing national planners today.

A review of population policies and programs in Asia that was recently carried out by UNFPA identified several factors which hindered the implementation of population and/or family planning programs: 1) The low status of women in patriarchal societies, 2) Low level of education or literacy, especially among women, 3) Widespread poverty, 4) Dependence on children, especially sons, as insurance against old age, 5) Early marriages, and 6) Lack of adequate health infrastructure and of trained family planning personnel.

The International Forum on Population in the 21st Century, which was referred to earlier by Mr. Sato, confirmed these findings and urged the adoption and implementation, goalward into these strategies to deal with these constraints and obstacles. We are convinced that if these problems are adequately addressed and if some of the cultural and institutional hurdles can be removed, Asia will be better prepared than any other developing region to meet the population challenge.

I wish the conference complete success on behalf of Dr. Sadik and my own. Thank you very much.

Address

By

Hon. Kharis Suhud

Speaker, Indonesian House of Representatives (DPR)

Distinguished Chairman of the organizing committee, Honorable members of Parliament, distinguished participants, Excellencies and Ambassadors, Representatives of the U.N. agencies, Ladies and Gentlemen, at the outset, allow me to bid welcome to the distinguished guests, participants at the current meeting of Population and Development in Jakarta, organized jointly by the APDA and the Indonesian Forum on Population, Environment and Development.

This meeting which was originally intended to be the Sixth Conference of Asian Parliamentarians Meeting on Population and Development will discuss serious issues which have an important bearing on the destiny of the peoples in this region and even the destiny of mankind. Therefore, this meeting is not only attended by parliamentarians but also by experts in various related fields. This is certainly not a meeting exclusively of parliamentarians alone.

Now I would like to quote a phrase, almost similar to what has been put forward by Honorable Sat Paul Mittal a few moments ago. And the saying goes: "If war is too serious to be left to generals, so is peace too precious to be left to politicians alone." Now if I may substitute the word peace with Population, Development and Environment, affects it so as Population Methods, Environment Methods and Development Methods are too precious to be left to Parliamentarians alone.

Since those issues are not simple issues which governments or a single country can alone address, so international cooperation is certainly needed, almost a must.

Ladies and Gentlemen, looking back at the past history of Indonesia, it should not be too expressive for me to say that the history of the Indonesian people has been one full of sufferings. This is due to the fact that for more than three and a half centuries, our nation had lived under the yoke of colonialism. And as a result of being colonized for such a long period of time, our people were ignorant, poor, backward and subjected to all kinds of physical and spiritual hardships.

To put an end to all that, Indonesia, at the end of the Second World War, proclaimed its independence on August 17,

1945. But soon thereafter, the Dutch returned to Indonesia and claimed its sovereignty over its former colony. And so war was unavoidable, and the Indonesians had to fight against the Dutch who were by far, better-armed and better-equipped than the Indonesians. Who would dare to think that the Indonesians, who were only armed with bamboo spears and a handful of firearms, were able to withstand the Dutch aggression.

Now it was only by the grace of God Almighty that we were successful in defending our proclaimed Independence, which we have continued to preserve and uphold. This is our firm conviction. It is in that relation, that in the preamble to our constitution, the 1945 constitution, the founding fathers of the Republic of Indonesia, wisely inserted a clear statement that the freedom we gained was only possible because of the blessing of God Almighty.

Conscious of this fact, we are at all times grateful for all the gifts and favor that God bestows on the Indonesian people. Not only in the form of freedom, but also in the form of a fertile soil and vast area of land, rich in natural resources.

Article 33 of our constitution, among others, prescribes that the land, water and natural riches contained therein shall be controlled by the state for their maximum utilization in the interest of the people's prosperity. Based on this constitutional message, representatives of the people who serve in the People's Consultative Assembly, have stipulated in the broad lines of state policy that the natural resources in our possession should be managed and properly utilized by continuing to preserve the sustaining abilities of the environment in order to be able to derive the best benefit in the interest of development and in people's welfare today and in the future.

For that reason therefore, from the very beginning, in the exercise of our national development in dealing with questions of the environment, including issues of population, we have been governed by a strong political commitment.

On this occasion, we would like to convey to this distinguished forum, that in carrying out our national development, we have always endeavored to bring about harmony and balance between the individual and his environment.

As I mentioned before, all of this is the message of our constitution, prescribing that the Indonesian environment is a gift from God Almighty and therefore the management of

population and environmental issues in Indonesia should be guided by a strong moral obligation and a strong political commitment. It is also in this context that Indonesia, since 1978, has a minister in the Cabinet in charge of population and environmental affairs.

Now it is my honor to introduce to this august audience, Excellency, Emil Salim. Would you please rise. Thank you.

We are well aware of the fact that as regards implementing our national development, we have started rather late compared with the situation of other countries. In 1945, after the Second World War, when most of the countries in the world already started with their reconstruction and development, Indonesia had to fight a war of Independence against the Dutch, which lasted from 1945 to 1950.

When the Dutch finally left Indonesia, we could not start our development yet. Since we had to concentrate all our available funds and forces to suppress insurgencies one after the other and continuous political upheavals, it was only in 1969 that we started our national development, namely with the launching of our first five-years development plan.

To catch up with progress in many areas, we are at present seriously accelerating our national development by pooling and properly utilizing our national resources without neglecting their special features. In making use of our forests, for example, we have always tried not to disregard their function, through such regulatory efforts as Indonesia's selective felling, reforestation, etc.

Ladies and Gentlemen, especially with regard to the population issue, I wish to point out, that in order to respond to the message of our constitution, namely, to advance the general welfare and to develop the intellectual life of the nation, from the very beginning we have endeavored to practice the concept of a small but happy and prosperous family.

Various activities have therefore been organized to control population growth through the participation of not only government agencies, parliamentarians, social leaders and the mass media, but also of women's organizations and especially it must be mentioned here, religious leaders.

It should be noted that to reach the present stage was not easy, as we had to overcome all kinds of obstacles, such as obsolete and negative traditions. Although our success so far has gained international recognition, in the form of

appreciation, yet we are still far from our specified target.

We are aware that the objective of the family planning movement is not only population control but also an improvement of the quality of the Indonesian man and of the Indonesian society, which is expected to have the ability to play an active role in preserving world peace and to participate in international efforts to bring about welfare to all mankind. It would not be too expressive for me to hope that Indonesia which is at present a recipient country of aid from, among others, the IGGI--Inter-governmental Group on Indonesia, would at one time be a nation offering assistance to the needing peoples in other countries.

Distinguished audience, I have just given you a glance of Indonesia's experience with issues of development, population and environment. This meeting is the right forum for the participants to exchange views and experiences in those subjects so that we can benefit from each other. Although not everybody will agree, but there is certainly some truth in this phrase which says, "Only fools learn from their own experience. I prefer to learn from the experiences of others."

In concluding, I would like to express once again how pleased we are to have all of you here, and hope that this conference will come out with concrete results in our common effort of endeavor to find solutions to questions of population and environment. Believing that your efforts will be inseparable from the endeavor to free peoples in our region from poverty, ignorance and all kinds of backwardness, your work will be in the surface of a just and civilized humanity, deserving the support of all parties and nations.

With those hopes, I am declaring this meeting on Population and Development, officially open. Thank you.



- Message from Dr. Nafis Sadik  
 Executive Director of UNFPA  
 by Mr. Jyoti Shankar Singh  
 Director of Information and External Relations Division,  
 UNFPA
- Opening Remarks :  
 By Hon. Kharis Suhud  
 Speaker, Dewan Perwakilan Rakyat, Republic of Indonesia

[12:30-14:00] PRESS CONFERENCE

[12:30-14:00] LUNCHEON hosted by Hon. Sato Takashi, Vice Chairman, APDA

[14:30-17:30] SESSION I GENERAL SURVEY ON POPULATION AND DEVELOPMENT  
 <at Hotel Borobudur Inter-continental>

Chairperson : Hon. Bambang Supangat, M.P. (Indonesia)

- 14:30-15:00 1. "Basic Survey on Population and Development in Nepal"  
 By Dr. Toshio Kuroda, Director Emeritus, Nihon University  
 Population Research Institute
- 15:00-15:30 2. "Survey on Rural Population and Agricultural Development in  
 Bangladesh"  
 By Dr. Yonosuke Hara, Professor, Institute of Oriental Culture,  
 The University of Tokyo
- 15:30-16:00 3. "Indonesian Experience on Population and Development"  
 By Dr. Haryono Suyono, Chairman, National Family Planning  
 Coordinating Board (BKKBN)

16:00-16:20 <Coffee Break>

[16:20-17:30] SESSION II ISSUES IN POPULATION AND DEVELOPMENT

Chairperson : Hon. V. N. Gadgil, M.P. (India)

- 16:20-16:50 4. "Urbanization and Development in Asia"  
 By Dr. Toshio Kuroda, Director Emeritus, Nihon University  
 Population Research Institute

16:50-17:20 5. Slide Presentation - Aging in Japan - Challenges and Prospects  
By Mr. Tsuguo Hirose, Secretary General, APDA

[19:00-20:30] WELCOME DINNER hosted by H. E. Emil Salim, Chairman, the Indonesian  
Forum on Population and Development

Friday, March 23

[ 9:00-17:30] SESSION III POPULATION AND DEVELOPMENT STRATEGY TOWARDS 21ST CENTURY

Chairperson : Hon. Hajah Rahmah Osman, M.P. (Malaysia)

Presentation of Country Papers :

Korea : Mr. Kyung Mok Cho, M.P.

- Urban Concentration and Its Problems in Korea

China : Mr. Hu Keshi, M.P.

- Chinese Population and Development Strategy Towards 21st  
Century

India : Mr. Mohinder Singh Lathers, M.P.

- Population and Development Strategy Towards 21st Century

Singapore : Mr. Sidek Bin Saniff, M.P.

- Population and Development Strategy Towards 21st Century

Japan : Senator Dr. Eimatsu Takakuwa

- Population and Maternal and Child Health in Japan

Nepal : Mr. Tika Jung Thapa, M.P.

- Population and Development Strategy Towards 21st Century

Discussion

[11:20-13:30] LUNCHEON hosted by Dr. Haryono Suyono, Chairman, BKKBN

[13:30-16:10] SESSION IV POPULATION AND DEVELOPMENT STRATEGY TOWARDS 21 CENTURY

Chairperson : Hon. Tika Jung Thapa, M.P. (Nepal)

Presentations of country papers :

Malaysia : Ms. Rahmah Osman, M.P.

- Population and the Status of Women in Malaysia

New Zealand : Mr. Fred Gerbic, M.P.

- Population and Development Strategy Towards 21st Century

Philippines : Senator Orlando Mercado

- Population and Human Resources and Development Strategies in the 21st Century

Indonesia :

Dr. M. Alwi Dahlan, Assistant Minister I, Ministry of State,  
Population and the Environment

- Indonesian's Population and Development Strategy Towards 21st Century

Sri Lanka : Dr. Neville Fernando, M.P.

- Population and Development Strategies for the 21st Century

Thailand : Senator Prof. Dr. Prasop Ratakorn

- Family Planning Program During The Next Five Years for Thailand

14:40-15:00 <Coffee Break>

15:00 Discussion

[16:10-17:20] SESSION V SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT AND FUTURE POPULATION POLICY

Chairperson : Hon. Taheri Noor, M.P. (Indonesia)

16:10 Keynote - Amsterdam Declaration and Demographic Transition in Asia  
By Dr. Toshio Kuroda, Director Emeritus, Nihon University  
Population Research Institute

16:20 Round Table Discussion  
Adoption of "Jakarta Appeal"

[17:20-17:30] CLOSING SESSION

- Closing Remarks :

By Hon. Takashi Sato, Vice Chairman, Asian Population and  
Development Association

By H.E. Prof. Dr. Emil Salim, Chairman, Indonesian Forum on  
Population and Development

[19:00-20:30] RECEPTION DINNER hosted by Hon. Takashi Sato, Vice Chairman, Asian  
Population and Development Association

SESSION I

GENERAL SURVEY ON POPULATION AND DEVELOPMENT

Tuesday, March 22, 1990

Chairperson: Bambang Supangat

Basic Survey on Population and Development in Nepal

By

Dr. Toshio Kuroda

Director Emeritus,

Nihon University Population Research Institute

Thank you Chairman. I am so much delighted to be given the opportunity to talk about the information on population in Nepal. Before going into a discussion, I would like to express my sincere gratitude to Nepalese people, in particular, Honorable Tika Thapa, the Chairman, Rastriya Panchayat. Forum on Population and Development, and Dr. Raghabu D. Pant, National Commission on Population, who are present here. And also the Minister of Health, Vital Registration Office, Central Census Bureau, Maternity Hospital, so many organizations helped us to implement the joint study on population and development in Nepal.

Furthermore, I would like to express my gratitude to the people who are living in two villages just outside the city of Kathmandu. We asked the Nepal people to make a sample, a survey in these two villages. We were happy to be able to go there and we met many people so majestically welcomed us. We were aided to provide us many information which we need. So in this sense, I would like to say our gratitude due to this assistance and cooperation of the Nepal people and the Government. We could finish our study in this area in only two weeks.

So many information was given, therefore, we have some difficulty to analyze properly and also correctly. But anyway, I will say some highlights of the findings which we have in Nepal. And also due to the limitation of time, I need to make the report very briefly. Maybe I think that, some of them may not be enough or may not be perfect. There may be some mistakes, in that case I will be very happy to have the two important persons from Nepal here.

First of all, The Topography of Nepal. All of you are maybe familiar with the specific nature of the topography of Nepal. Particularly we recognize the many cases, not only in Nepal, we can recognize historically the topographical characteristics are so fundamental factors, having been influencing the advancement of human habitation, human behavior and also economic-social development. Nepal forms three full strata of long land running from west to north, namely the mountain zone, hill zone and plains, so-called "Terai".

Because of very much scattered distribution of population and also the habitation rate is very low. It seems to be something like 10% or so, even though the substantial concentration into the Kathmandu Valley, especially Kathmandu City, Metropolitan Area. Then there is some difficulty of domestic communication, partly because there is an information gap among regions and habitation.

I will touch very briefly on demography of Nepal. I can find that the fertility is very high, crude birth rate is about 40<sup>0</sup>/00 in terms of the total fertility rate is about 6.0. On the other hand we could recognize the declining mortality for example in the 1960s the crude death rate was 25 but now coming down to 15. It is remarkable progress. This is due to the Government's very strong preventative health program. This is also so much successful. But on the other hand, as far as fertility is concerned, it shows not much reduction of fertility, so therefore, rate shows a very high population increase, high fertility and declining mortality.

Then the infant mortality, I found it was still rather high--it seemed to be about more than 130 deaths per 1,000 live births. In this situation, even though crude death rates declined, but infant deaths were very high, so then the average life expectancy is only 49 years for men and 47.5 years for women. You may find this is somewhat contradictory to the majority of countries where we can find longer average life expectancy for women.

But in Nepal it is reversed. Bangladesh and Pakistan, maybe the same way but very few. So we can find that there is a somewhat different situation in terms of the women and men and the social-economic status and also many other reasons.

Then also we can calculate the so-called Demographic Transitional Index. This means the transition from high mortality and high fertility to low fertility and low mortality. In Nepal and also Pakistan and Bangladesh, near the same level, 0.3. In terms of the Demographic Transition, this figure shows that these countries have only progressed 30% of the way of transition, leaving 70% of the transition process. I think this might be interesting for you. This kind of calculation has been made by APDA. This survey is in depth, you can find other data or reports to be compared with.

Then the fertility coming to the government policy in the field of population. In the field of fertility we know that the Government has been implementing very strong family planning policy, with the assistance of the UNFPA and other

U.N. organizations and also developing countries.

And on the other hand there is a very interesting survey taken by the Ministry of Health. It was very recent policy. It is called "Community Health Volunteers." It is a very much unique one. This is the only one allocated to each ward, region and village. They can conduct, they can talk with the people there about the family planning and also public health and many problems in connection with family planning and health problems, so that they are going to give any assistance, any suggestion very quickly. I think overall, fertility is going to decline in the near future.

The next one is the Government's Five-Year Plan, the Asia Five-Year Plan, starting in July this year. It is very interesting for me. The Government's Five-Year Plan set the population goal. Now the population increase is about 25 or 26. The Government population goal is set at 1.9%.

Next one is the Vital Association Act. This has been active since 1976. But very much unfortunate to find that only 40% of the total districts, 75. This means that only 40 districts out of 75 districts in prevention. So sometimes it is very difficult to obtain very accurate statistics on vital affairs. But it is surprising when we went to Ramkot Village, I find that the local official, including the Mayor of the City, or Village, he has done very much detailed research by himself, since 1977. It lasts more than ten years.

But I think this is wonderful one. We can get any necessary data to analyze fertility and mortality and even migration. So then in the birth data, mortality data, migration data, marriage data, divorce rate, and so forth. I was surprised. On the basis of this kind of data, we can make so much sophisticated analysis. But very sorry this is not the only recording, not yet analyzed.

I would like to add, present system in Nepal, so-called Panchayat System. I tried to understand what was the Panchayat System but seemed difficult for me. I tried to talk with people, and Japanese Ambassador and also many of my friends who are teaching at the Tripura University, and still I cannot understand it. But anyway I can say, generally the nature of Panchayat System, I think, other countries, like Indonesia, Japan, or so, nearly the same ideal. It means some of the community system linking each other and a mutual assistance, something like that. And I think this is so much a traditional system and also they encourage traditional system and also a new idea, which I just men-

tioned. This is taken by Ministry of Health, this is the "Community Health Volunteer".

In some sense, I felt that in some years ago I have been to China, in connection with Family Planning Services. In the initial stage, they are walking, the so-called, "The Bare-foot Doctor." This system in Nepal is very much useful. Then coming to the effect of bringing down fertility and mortality and raising up the health condition of the people.

So I believe this kind of new idea of the Government, and also the traditional, the community system, I suggest, to be combined, in the near future. Until now, there are so many strong policy and also the awareness of people, which make this system of coming into the effect in the near future. Then people understand the importance of the restoration--birth and death in my vision. This is important not only from the standpoint, the national standpoint, but also from the individual standpoint.

When they come to the office and they register, births and deaths, everything, migration, that they can come to understand their individual family rights. What meaning mortality, what meaning child birth. So they come to be much more sensibly, aware of the importance of restoration. So coming to be, I think, much more the effect to, or a measure for government to push the government policy on population.

So this is my general information on the base of our field study and also the pamphlet of information, kindly given by the Government and also the Nepalese people. Thank you very much.

#### DISCUSSION

Mr. Chairperson: Ladies and Gentlemen, and now may I invite the Honorable Delegates for a 15-minute round table discussion. Before you make a comment, would you please tell your name and the name of your country.

Mr. Thapa from Nepal: Thank you Mr. Chairman. First of all I must congratulate APDA for sponsoring this study and making Professor Kuroda and his team for preparing such an excellent report with the limited time at his disposal. This report, Mr. Chairman, is so well-prepared that I accept it as a piece of art. The current survey, I believe, is the third one by APDA.

Previous one deals with environment. The topic of this sur-

vey is a very complicated and relevant one, not only for Nepal, but for many other developing countries as well. So what I will do, I will try to divide my comments, I will try to be as brief as possible. I will find out some minor mistakes that I encountered in the report, hoping that it will be helpful to APDA and his team. And second thing, based on this report and the previous report prepared by APDA, I will find out something that is new on the issue of population and development in developing countries in general and in Nepal in particular.

One thing that Professor Kuroda said that Kathmandu was the biggest city. I think and everybody get the same impression that sometimes would be true. Actually it is not, it is the third largest city. And one thing what happens, you know, this is partly due to my mistake, because I was, we were provided some rather dated information on population which is sure why the Prime Minister, himself, made some casual mistakes which will be helpful to correct, especially on mortality, which I think has gone to a very high figure.

Similarly, as best heard it, in case of fertility, Professor Kuroda had said fertility is 6.86 and this was not the estimate. This was actually the estimate distributed by New Era and New Era distributed it yesterday at our own expense. It is their mistakes, and because he has pointed out the wrong data.

But I am very happy to learn that and it was mentioned very correctly that the birth rate in Nepal may decline, though the demographic trend descent may not come very soon, the demographic trend will descend. That is what we have seen in recent years actually after the survey was completed.

One report was prepared by the United Nations Commission on Population, partly inspired by the work of APDA, that is known as "Population and Development in Nepal." And the other one we are trying to do and I am only able to circulate, you know, this old report to all the delegates, because it is too bulky, about 300 pages, and I do not think anybody will have time to read this 300 page report. So this report will provide more information on population and development in Nepal. And it will also provide some current information.

But information in developing countries is always changing, and we cannot blame the writers for putting in the wrong figure because it is some time for development itself and there are so many difficulties we have to come up with various estimates. If there are any estimates and any

statistical figures, it is ours. But so far as the general conclusion presented by Professor Kuroda is concerned, I have no disagreement with him. The only disagreement with him is at the academic level.

One thing that we have found in the case in Nepal is that population and development is closely interrelated. This is the case in every developing countries, and Nepal is no exception. But at the same time, not only population and development, what we have found, the environment is also very much closely interrelated with population. So population, and if I have understood this morning's (opening speeches) clearly in this case given by the Honorable Delegates from APDA and from Indonesia, we also feel the population, development and environment is not three problems, it is one problem. Either you solve all of them, or you will not solve any one of them.

Thank you very much.

Dr. Kuroda: Thank you so much for giving us the correct figures. I have found sometimes, that so many the data provided by many organizations, and you have had excellent demographic surveys comparing with others. I remember that you have done demographic survey several times. It is not unusual to have different information or data in developing countries. But now you have kindly given us, very nice information.

Mr. Thapa: In this case, Mr. Chairman, as we know everybody when there are two tables or three statistics, because of that there will be some problems.

Someone addressing the delegate from Nepal: The role of the Parliamentarians in Nepal, is it connected with the family planning in your country?

Mr. Thapa: Of Parliament in this case, what happens, there is a National Commission on Population which is assured by the Prime Minister. It is the highest policy-making body on population. The Prime Minister is the Chairman. Then we have a full-time Vice-Chairman and the Board, which is composed of 15 members and 2 of the members are from Parliament. That we call Rastriya Panchayat. Rastriya Panchayat means, actually it is sort of a Parliament. The members are elected on the basis of adult franchise, the members are responsible to the people and the Prime Minister is elected by the Parliament, who is responsible to the Parliament. It is very simple. We have found it helpful in our country.

Mr. Mandang from Indonesia: I would like to talk much about the budgeteering in Nepal for family planning. You can give us some idea of family planning budgeteering?

Mr. Thapa: In this case, actually, it will come about 10% of government expenditure. And as for family planning, we do not say family planning. We call population, because in 70s, you know, while I have been here, we called it Population Activities. Previously in the 1970s, you know, population meant family planning and family planning meant contraceptive devices and contraceptive devices meant vaginal trouble.

Well, now we are coming to total involvement, death threat, mortality and the most important thing that we have accepted as a policy-maker, is that a policy, it cannot be succeeded without raising the status of women in the society.

One thing that I can mention to delegates, and this issue has come in Indonesia very frequently, is that this population, environment and poverty, I told already, is the same one problem and what we did, actually, what I did, is in the case of United Nations, they have published one book, "Population and Basic Environment of Nepal" in Nepal. It has already been published. I just got one copy. It is here. If you go and place request to ESCAP, they will provide you with it and I will be happy if they provide you because it is edited by myself.

Mrs. Sutopo from Indonesia: Thank you Dr. Kuroda for your excellent survey on Nepal, and also to the delegation of Nepal. What we would like to know more, is about effectiveness of this, your efforts in this population activities. You stated in your paper and also in the paper of Dr. Kuroda that his means a combination of the government program with the traditional community system and to make the people aware of the importance of this program. Can you give us more wider deliberation about the traditional community system. What do you mean and how can you combine these two efforts? Thank you.

Mr. Thapa: In this case, I have a little bit of doubt about the program. I think Mr. Kuroda is a necessary worker.

Dr. Kuroda: Thank you. I think this is just my personal opinion. And on the basis that the fertility could be reduced without any substantial economic development. Of course, some government policies in the economic development could make population reduction much easier, much faster but even without substantial economic development, fertility

could be reduced.

Therefore, I saw that, the rest is my personal opinion, in the case of Nepal, is that economy is not progressing very much. In terms of government policy and people's desire, people's perception, this could be very much effective, even without raising standard of living. I think you can find many similar cases in the world and also the recent scientific analyses have the most sense to it.

Usually people say the decline in economic development or the so-called modernization can go through in the same way of economic development but it could not decline. That is the fact we have in developing countries. But now it is quite different. Now I think in the case of Nepal, I saw that the economic policy coming to be effective under the implementation of the vital restoration and also family planning and also could introduce them to understand the meaning or importance of family planning, not only from the own individual life, but also from national standpoint. This can be much quicker, due to the government strong policy. In this case I saw that even in the vital restoration system, this is a very important incentive to give local people.

For example, in Japan, before the World War II, we had also an Asian system, but sometimes the people forgot and not like to go to office and then no realization about the birth coming up to the age until 5 or 6 and had to go to primary school, which is compulsory, with no certificate of birth. But they often could go there and then acquired a new certificate. So much more often it was the regular case, that maybe of coming up to the age of 20 or so when they had the compulsory service, military or that of navy, middle services with no registration at all. So then they had to make a new registration.

So I think this kind of registration is much more very nice incentive for people, rural people. How important. So this is coming to be understood by local people. They need more easier means to implement, practice family planning. That is my personal opinion.

Survey on Rural Population and  
Agricultural Development in Bangladesh

By

Dr. Yonosuke Hara  
Professor, The University of Tokyo

Thank you very much Mr. Chairman. It is a great pleasure for me to make a presentation in this very important conference, on behalf of my professor, Professor Kawano, who, is the team leader of our study regarding to the rural involvement in association with APDA and the former Chairman of the Agricultural Policy Council of the Japanese Government (Nosei Shingikai) but unfortunately, is not available here. I used to be a student of Professor Kawano and I had a strong order from him to make a presentation here.

The title of my presentation is, "Survey of Rural Population and Agricultural Development in Bangladesh." But I was informed from the Secretariat that the members from Bangladesh are not available here. Therefore, I would like to talk from a little bit wider perspective. And mainly by using these documents, and maybe you have this one, entitled, "The Strategic Measures for Agricultural Development."

As you know, during the last 6 years, APDA have made or conducted some rural surveys in 6 Asian countries. In 1989, we went to Bangladesh to make a field survey there. You can see the reports in the Bangladesh case at hand. Before going to Bangladesh, we went to 5 countries, India, Thailand, Indonesia, China and Nepal.

We made a survey from the two levels. One is Macro or the national economy level. The other one is done in some villages, that I would like to say the Micro level. And the purpose of our survey is firstly to identify the opportunities and the constraints of Agricultural Development in these Asian developing countries. And second purpose is to present some policy recommendations to the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry of the Japanese Government regarding how Japan can contribute to the agricultural development in developing countries.

And the first thing which I would like to emphasize here is that there are three types of the agricultural development strategies in Asia.

First type of the agricultural development is, I named, the 'Agricultural Lead Growth Strategy.' I mean if we go to India, China or Bangladesh, I think agriculture is still

very important for providing employment opportunities to the people. Therefore, the agricultural development, agricultural growth itself is a precondition for the overall national economy. I think this is the first type.

And the second type is when we visited Thailand and this country, Indonesia, we found that in these two countries, industrializations have been achieved reasonably and the tasks of agricultural development is a little bit different from the first type, like India or Bangladesh, because the main forces of economic development in these two countries, Thailand and Indonesia are already industrialized and the main tasks for all agricultural development is how to adjust agriculture sector to the changes of the overall economy, and I named this type of agricultural development 'the Need for Agricultural Diversification.'

And the third type, even though we have never visited, but if we go to Korea, maybe some of you representatives here, know that Korea's agriculture is now facing the very similar issues which Japan has at this moment. And I termed this one 'the Need for the Structural Adjustment in Agriculture.' These three types of the agriculture, tasks of agricultural development were identified through our survey.

Let me turn to the measure of findings regarding the opportunities and constraints of agricultural development in these countries. The first thing which I would like to emphasize here is, the first important findings is that, it is very important to provide the economic incentives to the farmers. I think that this is the basic conditions for agricultural development.

And if we go to some countries, for example, this country, Indonesia is very famous for the successful story of achieving the self-sufficiency of rice. Even though around 20 years back you imported a huge amount of rice from abroad, now you have achieved the self-sufficiency. If we look at, or carefully analyze the process of the agricultural development in these countries, the most important thing is that your government provided the huge amount of subsidies for the farmers, especially for the import subsidies to the government, to the farmers, and I think that giving subsidies to the farmers might provide the big incentive for the farmers to adopt the new technologies. I think this is one example of providing incentives for the farmers.

But I know at this moment, because of the budget constraints and also these, if my memory is correct, strongly recommended by the World Bank or IMF, your government stops to give

the subsidies to the farmers. And I think that in this case you should find out the alternative measures for providing the incentives for the farmers.

I think that this problem is rather common throughout the Asian countries. For example, last year, we went to Bangladesh and we found that Bangladesh Government also stopped giving the subsidies to the farmers. And Bangladesh Government could not yet find the alternative measures of giving the incentives to the farmers. I think this is a big problem for the future agricultural role in Bangladesh.

In this connection, I would like to emphasize the importance of the micro-economic adjustment. For example, in Indonesia, you devalued the rupia, rather four years back. I think the revaluation of the rupia might provide a big incentives for the farmers, especially for growing the exportable crops. And then your non-exports are increased. I think that this is one example of alternative measures of providing the farmers' economic incentives.

And the next thing I would like to emphasize is the very crucial importance of the research and development in the agricultural technologies for the future development, agricultural development in Asian countries. And especially I would like to say only two things, which is related to this R & D. First thing is that this R & D should be connected or should be directed to find out the appropriate technology which could be compatible with the provisions of environmental quality. I think that such is a very important task.

And the second point which I would like to raise, or insist here is that this area of the R & D might be the best area in which Japanese Government or Japanese can contribute to your countries. Speaking that Japan has enough capacity for R & D and we have the many agricultural scientists, and this stock of human resource in Japan should be used for raising up the R & D capabilities in Asian countries. Thank you very much.

#### DISCUSSION

Dr. Taheri from Indonesia: Thank you for giving me the floor. Dr. Hara, it is my great pleasure to have your brief note on "Survey on Rural Population and Agricultural Development in Bangladesh."

I just want to get some more information from you, especially because you said that there are three main very important problems that should be applied to countries like, you said, Southeast Asia, or some other part of countries. You have mentioned already the first one, to give the right incentive in economic, to those farmers in a certain area. It is not very clear for the other second or third. Please if you have time explain that again, because I just wanted to notice it because it is very important for us too.

One thing Dr. Hara, you said this is a "Survey on Rural Population and Agricultural Development in Bangladesh." But after that you tried to compare it with other places in some parts of other countries. I do not know what comparison you can use for it so that you can come to the conclusion that this country should be given any incentive or that some other country could not get any incentive.

That you said your Government, Japanese respective government, or Japan could play a very important role in this case. That is one, or that is two. And the third might be, I do not know what aspect come through with your survey of that I just want to know from what aspect you see this problem. Do you see the problem just through the economic aspect or some sociological aspect or some aspect others. Thank you, Dr. Hara.

Dr. Hara: Yes, thank you very much. I am very sorry because of the limitation of time, I could not tell what I had in my mind, but you know the first thing that I would like to say is that our study group emphasized the social aspect as well as the economic aspects. And for example, we discussed about the role of the communities of villages in the process of agricultural development. For example, we were so impressed when we made a field survey in this country, especially in this country, because your Government, and your farmers organized a very nice farmers' group called Krompok Tani or Krompok Warittani in rural areas.

I think that such social activities in rural areas might be the very important conditions for the successful agricultural development in your country and also we noticed the importance of the culture in the implementation stage of the agricultural development. Therefore, the first thing is that we did not neglect or ignore social aspect. But the agricultural development is one of the economic activities, therefore I think that the economic aspect might be more important than the social aspect. That is our feeling.

And then I emphasize the importance of the economic incen-

tives, but of course I did not ignore the importance of the other physical infrastructure, like irrigation or road or something like that, and of course these adequate provisions of physical infrastructures might be the preconditions for the farmers acceptance of economic incentives. Therefore, we did not ignore the importance of such physical infrastructures.

For example, if you have time, maybe you can find out our survey in Eastern India, especially in Bihar. And even though the Indian Government tried to provide the incentives for the farmers to the support price of commodities, the farmers in Bihar or East India could not utilize these opportunities because of the lack of infrastructure. Therefore, we would like to emphasize the importance of the infrastructures and then very frankly speaking, so far the waste of the Japanese corporations to the Asian countries in the field of agricultural development has been so much, concentrated on the improvement of infrastructure. But in the coming decade, I think the R & D of new technologies, the importance of R & D might be recognized.

Without new technology, the profitability or economic profitability of physical investment itself will not be increased. Therefore, that is the reason why our study group, would like to emphasize the importance of the R & D. Thank you very much.

Mr. Chairperson: Thank you very much Dr. Hara. Now we have 5 minutes left. So maybe there is some delegates who would like to make a comment. Yes.

Mr. Lather from India: The trouble in our country is, either due to lack of irrigation, or due to excess of rain, either it is drought or it is flood. That is the misery in our country and that is why the farmers are suffering. And also the farming sector is not developing. How can Japan help us in solving these two problems, of drought as well as flood? Thank you.

Dr. Hara: That question is too big for me to reply because I am a very small professor in a small university. But I think that the most important thing is that if India will or can formulate your own strategies, maybe Japan can find some possibilities to make a contribution. The philosophy of the Japanese Government giving aid, Japan does not intend to formulate the plan itself. That is your duty. If you have a nice plan, maybe Japan can find some areas in which Japan can contribute. Very fortunately, we have here the big persons from Japan. Thank you very much.

Mr. Pant from Nepal: I heard a lot of talk here about the incentive provided for agriculture. What I am feeling a little bit uneasy is that agriculture produces 70% of GNP in most developing countries, Nepal and Bangladesh. If you subsidize the sector which produces 70% of GNP, where will the money come from? This is the biggest sector. If you are going to subsidize this, how can we do this? It is a bit difficult.

Dr. Hara: I think that the situation in Nepal is a little bit different from Bangladesh. For example, unfortunately there is no member from Bangladesh, but Bangladesh was, or still is, the country that receives the largest amount of foreign aid. And maybe because it is very difficult for outsiders like me to check the budget of the government, sometime it is a secret. But frankly speaking, such foreign money might be used as source of subsidies. Of course, if the country is poor and agricultural sector occupies more than 70%, in that case, it is very difficult for Nepal Government to find out the sources. But I think if we look at the experience of Japan and Korea, one thing is very clear, that Japan, since the middle of last century, established a system of taxing and many landlords pay a huge amount of tax. Sometimes, very frankly, in many Asian countries, maybe the tax system is not well developed. I think this might be another big bottleneck for future development. Thank you very much.

"Indonesian Experience on Population and Development"

By

Dr. Haryono Suyono

Chairman, National Family Planning Coordinating Board

Mr. Chairman, distinguished participants, ladies and gentlemen. Since President Soeharto has really described very nicely about Indonesian population and development this morning, my role right now is just go with you through the slides what have been conducted in Indonesia so that if you are interested in watching the slides, please do so, but otherwise, we have 15 minutes so that you can take a little nap.

The Indonesian family planning program from the very beginning has been protected by very high political commitment by the president, the highest authority in the country, is a commitment not only for the mother but also for the children. It is a commitment for the whole family, mother, father and children, a commitment of the family which is then also shared with the international community. Shared not in terms of only commitment, but also in terms of sharing the burden of how to do family planning as part of the total development effort.

In the beginning, family planning was not popular so that we have to inform people that family planning is the most important part of the development. Sometimes we have to borrow other people's car to bring the family planning message down to the village. We have to pretend that we are the most important as part of the total development. This is to say that family planning as a new idea has to be conveyed to the people. We have to talk to the people as if we campaigned for political seat in the Parliament or in the Government. We have to tell people that doing family planning is as if we are trying to put the Indonesian flag as part of the honor of the country. We try to build with the people through whatever means of communication that family planning is important, not only for the people, but also for the nation. It is part of the total development of the country.

We also make use of the traditional media so that family planning can be seen not only by people of modern life, but also people of traditional belief. So that family planning can be seen not only by eligible couples, but also by the young. The idea is not to talk to people but rather to talk with people. To talk with people is meaning that you stop talking and informing people, you ask the people to come to

the forum, so that they can be seen that they are talking with us. Not talking to us, not talking to you, but rather talking with us. Sharing of this kind of commitment is not only commitment at the top but also commitment at the grass-roots level. This is what we did in the past. We have to ask the community leader, put the formal leaders and also the informal leaders to work with us, not to work for us, but rather to work with us.

We also talked to the women leaders because eventually women have so much influence in the community. We have also talked to the religious leaders and said that belief that family planning is part of the most important development effort in the country. We are not asking of why we have to do family planning because our Consultative Committee of Parliament has decided that family planning is part of the total development. When we spoke with the leaders, including religious leaders, we asked them how to do it best, rather than why we have to do it. Because there is no more question in Indonesia why we have to do it because decision has been taken by the Parliament and the Consultative Committee that family planning is part of the total development.

So we did not create any problems. The idea of talking with the people is that when we leave people are still talking with each other. And this is the case in which family planning occurs as a part of the community leadership talking with their own community. This is another example in which religious leaders talking about family planning, not by the Chairman of BKKBN, but rather by the religious leaders themselves. This is another example in which in their own surrounding people are talking about family planning. This is again another example in which the people talking about family planning in not a formal way, but yet very professional because we have provided them with which kind of models, examples and things like that so they can make use of these professional gadgets and professional equipment so that they convey the message correctly. This is another example in which the local leadership is talking about population and family planning with the kind of help, with a small toy in which they can inform people properly. Because sometimes we do not know whether people understand family planning correctly. But with this kind of small equipment and material, they can discuss family planning rather freely.

The idea is that we have to appreciate and we have been very lucky that by appreciating the people, they also appreciate us. So that the appreciation comes from two ways -- from

the community and from the Government and also the people. We also approach and try to convince the young the family planning even when they just got married, we train them just to raise their hands and put their fingers up, meaning happy family, and thus we are asking them to think when they get married, they dream of having only two children eventually.

This is the kind of approach that in the past when we could not convince the people we make use of fit workers to convince and talk to people door to door, so that we can reach as many people as possible. We combined family planning not only just to insert a duty but to take care of the whole lot because we work not alone by the Agency of Family Planning, but we work together with Department of Health, Department of Manpower, Department of Social Affairs so that our whole concern of the community life is more or less taken care of as mentioned by the President this morning, that family planning is part of the total development.

We do family planning very informally because the informality of conveying the message to the people is the most acceptable. We also take care of their children with immunization so that we are not against children in family planning, but rather we wanted children that are very much expected by their parents. We also talk to people about how to take care of their first child. How to take care of breast feeding and things like that. And this is part of the total development, and eventually people themselves will get together to develop what then will become popular as integrated development program. But everywhere you go you will see this kind of billboard, and this is supported by not only family planning program but also by companies to remind people that joining family planning is not only using IUD but also postponing your marriage and have children when you are very healthy between the age of 20 to 30. This is also part of the total.

We remind people by creating a kind of flower vase like this so that when you call your friends, you are reminded that please have only two children. Even when you cross the street, you push the button, you will get a green sign and then you will hear the family planning song there.

So this is a kind of reminding that we put everywhere as much as possible. The idea is that the mothers themselves are concerned about the health of their children. That the whole family is concerned about the whole future generation of Indonesia. The idea that they are not only concerned about themselves in taking contraceptive but also concerned that their neighbors also make use of the same contracep-

tive. So the kind of share that we built is such that when they do family planning properly, every two years, His Excellency President Soeharto mentioned this morning, invited representatives, 300 couples to come to the Palace and President Soeharto Himself gave the award to the family planning continued uses. This is a picture in which President Soeharto to the representative of continued family planning acceptors gave the family planning award. And you can see that President take time to talk and chat with the family planning acceptors as if family planning acceptors are the most citizen in Indonesia. And frequently we have time to chat with the President, but because of using IUD or having the pills for 5 years or more, then the participant of family planning has the pressure to talk to the President.

This is another occasion in which the Madam, the First Lady, chatting with the family planning acceptors and this picture was broadcasted through television, radio, newspaper so that everybody is dreaming "I have to continue using my IUD for more than 5 or 10 years so that, who knows, I will have a chance to talk the President, to talk to the First Lady and things like that. This is more less something.

It was also mentioned by the president this morning that every continued family planning acceptors are given two coconut hybrids, not to be eaten but rather to be planted so that in 3, 3 and half, or 4 years' time this coconut will really produce fruit that has more or less 100 or 120 pieces each that can be used to improve the family well being. President Soeharto has also initiated with other charity organization to give fellowship to the children of continued family planning acceptors. So that you can see from these two examples of reward. Reward is not to be taken as consumption, but reward of investment. You have to work very hard to get the fellowship, you have to work very hard to get the coconut hybrid. It is a reward so you make yourself work harder. And this is another example in which this community has given the opportunity to continue the schooling and get materials for the family planning. They themselves then are making use of what we call community economic investment to do the kind of work by the women themselves, by the family planning acceptor. This a protocol of the family planning acceptor class, so that they can sell because they have more time to really do things in terms of producing for the improvement. This is an occasion in which the Chairman of IPPA visited family planning class, in which turn the family planning acceptors happily can show to the IPPA Chairman that the assistance given by donor agencies is very well used.

We finally also knew that not all family planning acceptors will be happy to get free contraceptive distribution. Ten or more percent are willing to pay their own family planning contraceptives. Recently, since 1987, we introduced new dimension in the program. We introduced this blue circle family planning which means the commitment is very sound or the commitment is very wise and we like to purchase our own contraceptives. We agree with the Minister of Health, this is the picture of Minister of Health, to really start new dimension in family planning. We spoke with the Minister of Religious Affairs to really come forward with this new, what we call self-reliant family planning program. We also spoke with our religious leaders and eventually we also spoke with our parliament members. We introduced the ideas and we asked the approval and the blessing from the Parliament that, "Look, this is a new effort in introducing the family planning program in Indonesia." And we asked the Minister of Interior to start the whole movement in what we call a self-reliant family planning program. We introduced new symbol as a graduate symbol of advanced family planning program.

You can see from the slide that family planning is not something that you whisper. But rather, family planning is part of a political campaign by the people themselves. Family planning symbol dropped by the helicopter. Maybe this is the first in the world, just to attract the attention and at the same time to introduce the kind of movement in Indonesia. You can see we only have 50 cars. But we put the cars around Jakarta for one month so that people who saw the car thinks that nation family planning has plenty of cars because everywhere they go they meet these cars. So that we try to imitate the American movie of cowboy dying and then get other cowboys and things like that, just to convince people that we are not just playing with family planning. We are very serious, that is why the Government and the people provided a lot of facilities.

But eventually, we have doctors to be committed. Doctors that put the sign of family planning so that also put the sign of family planning, so that they are ready to serve. But in serving family planning we have to also provide with the drugs. This is a picture in which the Indonesian Doctor's Association Chairman who is sitting back there receiving the drug directly from the President as a symbol that right now we can start by providing this family planning to the people.

And this is another example. Though it looks like campaign

that everybody can get family planning, when it comes to the service, we do it very professionally. We have to ask doctors to check whether the would-be family planning acceptors are ready to get the family planning drugs. There have to be offered any type of contraceptives before one makes decision. We have to make sure that the structure is really providing all types of contraceptives so that people can make their own choice. The contraceptive that is offered is sometimes simple. As simple as condom, or simple as intra-vaginal tablets or pills, or simple as pill. Because sometimes people like to have love-making only one time every month. So we have a simple drug for that. One every three months. Fine. We have a protraction for that. So that every angle of contraceptives are provided in Indonesia but we also make sure that the drug is easily available but then the family eventually has to make the decision.

With this is kind of reminding, the goal is not contraception but rather whole family happiness, that family welfare is improved, that family themselves can feel that the government officials, the parliament members they can feel happy that the program is working. The goal eventually is to see to it that no generation is a different generation. A generation which is so well educated, a generation that we come with them and take them as a new generation of future. A generation that face the future with happiness because we, as parents, as grandparents have provided what is necessary for this new and young generation.

My friends, ladies and gentlemen, with all those things, the commitment of the President has been number one. For that reason, the President in 1988 received the award from the Population Institute, in 1989 received the award from the United Nations. I thank you for this.

#### DISCUSSION

Mr. Chairperson: Thank you very much Dr. Haryono. With your explanation you have showed the slides. So, the time is now 16:05. We will now proceed to our last round table discussion for maybe 10 minutes only. So I give you the opportunity to make comments.

Ms. Osman from Malaysia: I wish to congratulate Dr. Haryono for his effort, and all his colleagues for making tremendous change in Indonesia. You have managed to reduce your population growth that I know was 10 to 15 years ago to now about one point something percent. Just one question. I noticed the younger group participation in your program is

very very encouraging. But could you clarify a little bit more about this marriage law in Indonesia. The Muslims and non-Muslims, you did just say now is 20 for the girls, but they are different. Is it in your constitution.

Dr. Haryono: The official marriage law in Indonesia is giving the permission to the girl to get married at the age of 16 and the man 19. But before they reach the age of 20 or 21, they have to get the permission of their parents. Our promotion is to ask them to postpone their marriage until a girl reaches the age of 20 and a boy reaches the age of 25. And we give reason, and this kind of postponement is a kind of volunteer by the people themselves. And we explain the reason why eventually from the study that we have at the moment, the average age of marriage is about 22.

Mr. Chairperson: Thank you very much Dr. Haryono.

Mr. Saniff from Singapore: I am indeed delighted to know what formula Dr. Haryono is really using, especially knowing fully well the Muslim, Malay and Indonesian. And here, you managed to change the mentality. From the teens, usually 14, 15 and 16 to 20 and 25. What sort of formula did you use?

Dr. Haryono: Well, it is no single formula. We still have some problems in some areas and this area is one of the biggest areas in Indonesia, that is in West Java with the population of 30 to 33 million. But in areas in which we are successful, we try to make the use of combination of education and work opportunity. We work through Department of Education by introducing population education since they reach the age of 10. So that we put population education as part of the total education package curricula. We explain not to reduce and to increase a child because your body is not ready. We also explain from the health point of view that if you have children before you reach the age of 20, the opportunity of having abnormal children is so much compared to after you reach the age of 20. From another point of view, we also explain that those who are successful in life, usually they postpone their marriage and use the time to improve their education and welfare before they can bear any children. From the religious point of view, we asked our religious leaders to really make use of the time before somebody really ready to get marry to improve their fate and religiousness. So that we do not exactly which one works well. But we attack the whole thing from so many different angles. We also make use of the women organizations all over the country to make sure that they have proper mothers, and proper mothers are those who have

reached the age of 20. And this is all voluntary, not by any laws or by any instructions because the law has stated that you can really get married if you reach the age of 16, or if you reach the age of 19. Thank you.

Mr. Chairman: Thank you very much Dr. Haryono. Ladies and gentlemen. According to the program, we must be ended. Ladies and gentlemen. Thank you all honorable speakers and parliamentarians for your participation in this session. And I am sure that this must have been a very fruitful discussion in the area of population and sustainable development, a model of development which will not only fulfill the basic needs of our generation, but will also maintain the ecological system for the needs of the future generation, which will, if we all work together, bring to our countries and regions an era of this social justice and economic contentment. Since the time we have now is 16:15, and it is time for coffee break. We adjourn this afternoon session until the next session. Thank you very much.

SESSION II

ISSUES IN POPULATION AND DEVELOPMENT

Tuesday, March 22, 1990

Chairperson: V. N. Gadgil

Urbanization and Development in Asia

By

Dr. Toshio Kuroda

Chairman, thank you very much. It seems to be now the Chairman has expressed a major point on Urbanization and gave us final conclusion on urbanization. Maybe do not need to say more. Anyway I would like to say something following on the basis of the Chairman.

Originally I was assigned to make a report on aging progress but now Indonesia side requested us to make a report on urbanization. Just now as the Chairman said, urbanization is really very important problem. I believe that one of the major problems in the next century's work might be urbanization. Because the urbanization in terms of the number of population living in city, coming to be increased enormously next century.

I used to think about if the urbanization comes by the population living in the city, coming to exceed 50%, then I think the social and economic chain, sometimes they can say urbanization revolution, because Chairman said social and economic development and human behavior, lifestyle, value system, going to change also in terms of the world population in the next century going to exceed 50%.

In terms of world population, so what will be the world population in the next century? And also the overpopulation in so-called developing countries coming to enormous in 1980. The urbanization rate, quite different. But in terms of optimum number of the population living in the cities, in 1980 come to be near same, 130 or so, 130 million or so. But the end of this century, the urban population in developing countries is going to increase. It might be more than the urbanization in developed areas.

So in this sense, I think, the urbanization is quite important problem, not only developing, but also socio-economic point of view. My paper is just presented to you on urbanization policy in the case of Japan, it is about 20 pages, and selected statistics on urbanization in the tables attached.

The case of Japan might be interesting to you. I said the urban population going to exceed 50%, then the social-economic structure going to change remarkably. So I just described our experience in Japan starting from the so-called Meiji Restoration, starting from 1868. So taking up

a little more than 100 years, we could find out the urbanization, what the different socioeconomic situation required according to the urbanization rate.

So starting from the Meiji Era, early modernization period in Japan, urban population shared 10% or so. It started increasing more and more and just before World War II, coming up to 50%. And then during the war, coming down, so-called decentralization of population due to the war, after the World War II, rapidly increased. It becomes about 76% now. So we can find out, that even in terms of the industrial structure, and also the occupational change, and also the change in lifestyle, everything is changing.

I think this urbanization also should be taken account in terms of population control, family planning, and also mortality reduction and so on. I showed my statistics on urbanization and development. This is mostly depends upon the United Nations estimates. You can find out the world population and urban population and also proportion by more developed and least developed. You can find that in 1950 up to 1975. In terms of number of the urban population is quite similar.

After that as I told you, already, it is increasing very rapidly, in less developed regions. For example you find that in 2000, the urban population in less developed regions. Then we have keen interest in urbanization in terms of the composition of size of cities.

Table 2 shows the over-population by size of the cities' population. Somewhat different from, the more developed and less developed. It must be interesting for you to understand that in the more developed regions, the large cities in this division of cities are divided into 3 types; 1) cities with over 4 million, 2) cities with 1 to 4 million, and 3) cities with less than 1 million.

Three divisions, you can find that the large cities in terms of the cities having population more than 4 million. The proportionally, this coming to decline for example in 1980, 14%, by the year 2000, 13.4%, then coming to 13.08 exactly in 2025. And also, the middle size cities, 1 to 4 million. This is not so much different from 1980 to 2025. As to the cities with 1 to 4 million population, it will not change so remarkably, just 20% or so, and also less than 1 million, small cities will be coming to decrease.

But on the other hand, in less developed regions you can find that large cities, over 4 million in terms of propor-

tion, continue to increase, starting from 11.1% in 1950 and then 28% in 2025. About the 1 to 4 million case, this will not have much difference. We can say that it is going to decrease slightly in the very near future. And then the small cities continue to decrease. So it means much more different problem at how many to be expected in developed countries.

We can recognize even in this region, in Asia, big cities are increasing more and more. According to the Asian nations, we have to expect still, this kind of trend, going to continue at least until 2025. On the other hand, in developed countries, this coming to be less and less and then somewhat of a different change. Maybe we can say that middle size city is coming to be more dominant. But in less developed countries, we have more and more big countries, sometimes including the medium cities maybe more than 1 million. I think, this is one of the reasons why the urbanization problem are so much important in developed regions.

Then the next, Table 3, showing the so-called mega-cities, having more than ten million population. You can find that in the world, the number of Mega-cities, only seven in 1970. The vast number of cities between the developed and developing is only one. But in the year 2000, developed countries will have only 4, but 18 in less developed countries. This is also suggesting, mega-cities mostly increasing in developing countries and not increasing in developed regions. This is another fact we should pay more serious attention to.

Table 4, shows the urbanization and industrialization. I do not think to say about this kind of things because urbanization and industrialization so closely related to each other. So higher urbanization means higher industrialization, it mean more secondary and more tertiary industries.

Table 5, this is in the case of Japan, the distribution of urban population by size of city population and rural population. And also I say that in terms of developed regions, near same thing is happening in Japan. Large cities are the proportion of large cities among total population increasing, since 1960 but after 1950 there is no difference, so much stationary, stable, not increasing. But variations in 1985 started increasing. But on the other hand, it is not very much remarkable to say that the medium cities, this in continue to increasing from only 20% in 1960 then, now 32% in 1985, and the small cities coming down, rural areas of course are decreasing remarkably.

And this suggests the case of Japan according to industrialization, and the city size, so-called a kind of urbanization structure, which is going to change to middle size city. This means the sub-population coming into middle city from large city and small city to middle size city...

Nothing different I have to say about urbanization problems. So in this sense I think that the urbanization problems are the most serious problems in terms of the demographics and also we can recognize that the urbanization is going to affect the vital subjects in rural areas, in urban areas. In Japan we have many small size rural areas. Small cities going, showing the minus population increase, because due to the higher death rate and lower birth rate, coming to vital subjects. So in this sense, it shows the urbanization, and so much drastic change in terms of the demographic behavior too. So the socioeconomic problem also very important on this from this point of view.

Dr. Taheri from Indonesia: I am Taheri from the Indonesian delegation. Thank you for giving me the floor.

You were talking about the urbanization. Once it had come to our mind that there must be some push and the other pull factor that urbanization could run. Since the push and pull factor is different from one country to another, the urbanization part could be different from one country to another too. So in our country could be different than in Japan or some other country respective delegation presenting here.

Would you please, in connection, giving us some information about how you handled the problem in your country and if there is any suggestion, is there any main formula like our brother from Singapore, asking us a few our scope? Is there any, formula that could accept by some or any other so that the problem of urbanization could be solved, let us say not as a bad, like the respective, like right now. Thank you Dr. Kuroda, thank you Chairman.

Dr. Kuroda: Thank you very much for a good question. It is difficult to answer. But you said that prevent or slow down the urbanization. This is a very serious question. How you can understand urbanization? Urbanization is, you can say, is a process, one process of very important process of modernization, right? Then you mean to prevent or slow down the modernization or industrialization?

I do not think so, sorry. So then the urbanization of course, in that case, many problems coming out. For example, too many the migration into big cities and rural areas

losing population, and this increasing urbanization process. But then the problem is this, how to slow down the in-migration or then the decentralization of population.

But I do not think of the anti-urbanization. Sometimes many scientists say the anti-urbanization but this means too much population in big cities like many countries, not only Japan, big metropolitan areas, Tokyo, and Osaka, so much coming into. Then the problem coming in, for example like the environment and also the so-called scale economy coming to lose so in this sense, so the Government tries to make a big decentralization policy. But this is not against urbanization you know. So then, in our case, we had some policy. Too much excessive population concentrating in Tokyo and Osaka.

So recommending enterprises in big cities to go out. Some benefit. When you are moving into a local area, we can subsidize. So we have some policy, we do not have any positive anti-urbanization policy. We do not have possible and desirable distribution policy. But on the other hand, you might have, for example too much population into Jakarta or Bangkok, this is really a demographic problem. For example, you have very high fertility in rural area and excess of population and so much labor force but not enough employment opportunity, they are coming into Bangkok sometimes Jakarta, and then we must have some policy. But this is not against urbanization. This is my understanding.

Slide Presentation

"Aging in Japan - Challenges and Prospects"

By

Mr. Tsuguo Hirose

Distinguished members of Parliament, ladies and gentlemen,

Good afternoon, APDA has produced a set of slides titled "Aging in Japan-Challenges and Prospects".

Japanese society is rapidly aging and elderly people of over 65 years of age now account for 11.9% of total population. It is expected that in the early 21st century, three working people will have to support one elderly person.

You will see in the slides how Japan tried to cope with the aging society in terms of medical care, medical insurance, pension scheme, improvement of nursery homes in both quality and quantity and extension of retirement age.

I understand your countries share the same problem and have started the preparation for the aging society. We hope that our slides will be some help to you.

We will donate a set of slides to each country represented here today. We will appreciate it very much if you would make an arrangement in your country to show them to many people concerned with the aging society.

Thank you very much for your kind attention.

SESSION III

POPULATION AND DEVELOPMENT  
STRATEGY TOWARDS 21ST CENTURY (I)

Friday, March 23, 1990

Chairperson: Rahmah Osman

Country Paper- Korea

Urban Concentration and Its Problems in Korea

By

Hon. Cho Kyung Mok

Member of House of Representatives

The population problem in the Republic of Korea has been controlled compared to the past years. For example, the natural population increase rate in 1987 was 0.96% and it is expected to go down to 0.75% by the year 2000. Thus, the population increase rate will be zero by 2030. Consequently, this issue is no longer as serious compared to other developing countries of the region. However, we have now moved into a new stage in this connection--that of urban concentration.

Urban concentration in the Republic of Korea is a result of the economic development which began in the 1960s. As industrialization and modernization will continue in the future, this problem is expected to become worse. Especially, presently 17% of the Korean population is still spread around the rural areas and more than half of this population is expected to gradually move towards the city creating an even graver situation in the future.

The urban concentration problem in our country is particularly more serious in Seoul which is the center of all activities--business, administration, education, and culture.

The major problems created by the population concentration in the urban areas can be broadly divided into 1) housing, 2) traffic, and 3) environment.

Urban housing is particularly serious problem. The number of new families in Korea is rising faster than the number of new housing units. The ratio of families to housing units was 74.4% in 1974, declining to 69.2% by 1987. House ownership is an impossible dream not only to those in the poorest sector of our society but also for those with middle class incomes.

Presently, the Korean government has assigned housing as one of the priorities in its list of policies. The current goal is to create 2 million new housing units by 1992 among which 600,000 will be government-subsidized for rental by low income families. For the middle income groups, however, the objective is to improve the financial system rather than

providing subsidies.

As a policy-maker, I see two side-effects to this policy that must be carefully taken into consideration. One is the concern of wisely utilizing our limited resources, especially at a time when the continuous economic growth should be our priority.

Another side-effect is the concern that rental houses for low income families under government subsidies would create slums in some areas of the city.

Secondly, traffic congestion is another serious problem which has emerged as a result of urban concentration. The average annual increase rate for passenger cars was 27.6% from 1982-1988 and will average at least 15% from 1988-2000. During rush hour the average speed was 13.5 kilometers per hour in 1988. By the year 2000 this will be down to 6 kilometers per hour.

To cope with this situation, the government is focusing on improving and expanding the public transportation system, in particular, the subway system. However, compared to other cities like Tokyo and New York with the subway transportability of 76% and 72%, respectively, Seoul's subway transportability only reaches 16.8%. We are presently planning to expand this to 50% by the year 2000.

There is no doubt that appropriate solutions to this problem will be very costly. This is why we are striving to obtain funds from the consumer.

As a law-maker, I can see the difficulties in this problem since without rising taxes to a certain extent this traffic congestion problem cannot be solved and consequently, this will not meet the satisfaction of car-owners.

The last subject I would like to discuss with regard to urban concentration is the environmental problem. Due to the rapid industrialization and modernization, this issue is emerging as a new threat to our daily lives. Presently, the density of sulfuric acid gas is steadily increasing while smog appears in major cities like Seoul and Taegu. In addition, atmospheric and water pollution is contaminating the air.

As a means to support these policies, the government will increase the investment of funds to this problem from the present 0.5% of our GNP to 1-2%, at the level of the advanced countries.

It is natural that as a country becomes more industrialized and modernized, a major cluster of the population will shift towards the urban areas. It is also natural that problems like housing, traffic, and environment will follow this urban concentration. However, the fundamental question to this problem is how to prevent this population concentration in the urban areas?

It is expected that in Korea only 5-6% of the present 17% rural population will remain in the rural areas in the next ten years. This increase will create even graver problems, and appropriate solutions are called for accordingly.

To fundamentally solve this problem of urban concentration, the government is planning to scatter the present Seoul-concentrated population around in other major cities. As a step to do so employment opportunities will be provided by decentralizing the industries. In addition, rural programs that will educate and train the rural population to become specialized in their fields will be carried out.

This hopefully will evenly spread the urban population in other major cities and areas beside from Seoul and maintain a substantial percentage of the population in the rural areas. In this manner, not only the urban concentration problem will be solved but also other major cities which have been falling behind compared to the Metropolitan area will be further developed, and the rural areas also will enjoy a comfortable living standard similar to that of the cities.

I hope that the Korean experience will help other developing countries which are presently going through or will go through similar problems.

#### DISCUSSION

Mme. Chairperson, with your permission, I would like to report that since our last year's meeting in Manila, the Korean Parliamentary League on Children, Population and Development was formed within the National Assembly to work systematically and closely work the subject at hand, at the legislative level. For more information, please refer to leaflet presentation of the CPB attached in my paper. With this new information, we will devote all our efforts to contribute to development of the region.

Mme. Chairperson, with your permission again, I would like to take this opportunity to convey Korean Forum on CDP's

willingness to put Korea on the list of the future host countries at any time, whenever you want. To do so, I think we can maximize to share our experience with all of you effectively. Thank you very much.

Mme. Chairperson: Thank you Korea. I think you have reduced our problem of looking for countries to host any functions. Colleagues, there you are Korea is willing to host any type of conference. Whatever it may be. Thank you. Now, I would like to see the response from the floor. I think the last note from Korea, as the country has become more industrialized and modernized, he will have problems. Problems like migration, housing, employment, environment. And I think that is a good subject to start with this morning. Can I hear from the floor. Indonesia?

Dr. Mokoginta from Indonesia: Mme. Chairperson. Thank you for this opportunity. A speaker from Korea, many years ago I was in Korea joining some meeting. I would like to know how you have progressed, or is it a successful program?

Mr. Mok: We think it is very successful. And we call this Saemaul Undong, the new village movement that will help the people in the rural areas to give them self-helping, self-sustaining spirit and cooperative work together by themselves. So we think it is very successful and this new village movement is still going on the rural areas, and this spirit is spread throughout the city areas, too.

Dr. Mokoginta: What is the mechanism of this movement?

Mr. Mok: Each village has its Saemaul Undong unit consisting of the residents of that very area, so it is spread out through the whole country. And it is supported by the Ministry of Internal Affairs, and also at outside there is private organization, only to support the Saemaul Undong and Saemaul units on the village level. So there are many organizational levels up to the nationwide one.

Country Paper - China

Chinese Population and Development Strategy  
Towards 21st Century

By

Hon. Hu Keshi

Vice Chairman,

The Education, Science, Culture and Public Health, NPC

We are here today discussing the common concerned issue on population and development strategy towards the 21st century. It may not only help us foresee the future problems and possible crisis on population, but also urge us to take action beforehand prior to the grim situation we shall encounter with, so as to make prevention first. As is known to all, this is of benefit to the peaceful and stable development of Asia and in keeping with the interests of Asian people. Meanwhile, it is also a duty-bound mission to the Asian parliamentarians and experts on population to supply the problem a proper solution.

China is developing socialist country. Since the reform and opening up to the outside world, the national economy has accumulated and the living standard of people has markedly improved. Our political situation is stable and economy continues to develop after the victory in halting the turmoil and quelling the rebellion at the turn of spring and summer last year. China has now basically solved the problem of feeding and clothing the people. The goal we have set up for economic development is: to quadruple the value of our national products of 1980 by the year 2000 so that our people will enjoy a relatively well-off living standard. We will go on striving for the construction of socialism with Chinese character on this level, and try to catch up with middle developed countries in the mid of the next century.

The population problem of China is an issue of overall importance in the course of socio-economic development. It will be favorable to the accomplishment of the plan on national economic development if the problem is solved satisfactorily. Although the output of steel, coal, oil and grain ranks China the first five place in the world, the average output per capita leaves the position back to one hundred behind. Therefore, it will be difficult to improve livelihood of people without implementing population control policy and we shall fail to hold our responsibility to the people without practicing family planning program. Article 49 of our constitution stipulates "both sides of husband and

wife have the duty to practice family planning". It represents the vital interests and common aspiration of the broad masses of Chinese people. We wish hereby to express our thankfulness to UNFPA, AFPPD and parliamentarians and celebrities for their understanding and support to population policy in China.

The total number of population on China's mainland had reached 1.11 billion by the year 1989, and the annual addition is 15 million. The present upsurge of fertility will last till the mid-1990s. So the population situation in this country is really arduous. It can be predicted that China will be confronted with several major problems on population in the next century.

Primarily, the total number of population in China will still increase. The population growth is of high potential owing to young age structure. As result of baby boom between 1962 and 1973, the annual number of women entering childbearing age will be as high as 11 million. Besides, the practice of contract responsibility system in rural areas has in a certain extent stimulated the peasants' desire for more children, especially boys. The development of planned commodity economy has brought about the increase of floating population, which counts 50 million every year. Family planning program in this part of population remains a lot of difficulties.

The family planning policy in China has achieved great success since the 1970s, while the average life expectancy has also elevated considerably. It is quite obvious that the aging of population will become a more and more serious problem in the 21st century. According to projection, the number of population over 65 years old will reach 86 million by the year 2000. China will be entering an aging time then with the aging coefficient (the gravity of population over 65 years old in the total) of approximately 7 per cent. The aged population will reach peak number of 0.25 billion by the year 2040, when the aging coefficient will be up to 17 per cent. So the aging problem will become an important issue for socio-economic development in China.

Job creation will be another problem to be solved in the 21st century, and the ratio between the number of labor force (15-64 years old) and total population will keep at 60 per cent. The absolute number will be around 0.85 billion by the year 2000. 0.92 billion by 2050, which is 0.2-0.3 billion more than that in 1988. The average number of work seeker will reach 10 million each year.

Urbanization in China will last to the next century. In terms of percentage, the number of population in city and town to the total rose from 20.8 in 1982 to 49.6 in 1988 along with the reform and opening as well as the development of national construction. It is estimated that the number of population will still increase in the 21st century while the structure of city will tend to be more rational.

Facing the arduous situation of population in China, we must take corresponding measures to meet the challenge. Our main strategies are as follows:

I. Adhere to the policy of "controlling population growth and improving the quality of birth" strive to bring the fertility rate down to the replacement level within 40-50 years, try to stabilize at about 1.5-1.6 billion and reach zero growth level by the mid of the next century. We shall energetically advocate the need to give birth to, and bring up, better children, accelerate the development of medical services, physical culture and social welfare undertakings and further strengthen preschool education in order to transfer the population burden into the source of labor and intelligence, therefore to propel the socio-economic development forward.

II. Take emphasis on agriculture, exert further efforts to increase grain yield, stick to the planned commodity economy and expand middle and small sized cities. We shall continue to encourage and guide the township enterprises in the trend of healthy development. In the 1980s, China formulated a guideline which stated to limit the size of big city, put middle city to rational development and actively expand small city and town. This line charts the direction of urbanization in China, especially the course for shifting of the surplus population in rural areas. It has been proved successful in practice. The development of small city and town together with the thriving of township enterprises has provided working opportunity for a large number of surplus labor force. It not only brought about a prosperous economy in town and country, but also smoothed the overpopulation problem in rural areas. In the mean time, it regulated the unreasonable structure of city in a certain extent.

III. Take effective action to tackle the aging problem. There is not a well-established social security system in China at the stage of being. In rural areas, where constitutes China's majority population, the old age support comes mainly from children. It is not realistic to expect the tradition to undergo a rapid change considering that China is still an underdeveloped country. Therefore, we must

proceed from the basic national condition of our own. On the one hand, we shall greatly improve the social security system in the course of developing national economy. On the other hand, we will continue to advocate and encourage the family support system, make children of definite obligation. We will make our best endeavors to solve the problem of old age support in combination of social support with children support.

We have no reason to be pessimistic even though the population situation in China is rather arduous. As long as we counter the challenge resolutely, actively and faithfully, further strengthen the work of legislation and policy on population and perfect our family planning program, we will definitely overcome the difficulty. I am convinced that China will effectively solve its population problem in the forthcoming 21st century as well as the other Asian nations.

We Asian countries share similar problems on population and development. For the sake of peace and stability of Asia, for the prosperity and progress of all countries. I suggest to the parliamentarians and experts here:

1. To urge the individual government to strengthen the study of the population problems in the 21st century and draft the long-term program on this issue;
2. To strengthen co-operation and exchanges on population and development of the 21st century amongst various Asian nations;
3. To strive to enhance the comprehension and understanding of the people in each countries on population problem;
4. To strive to promote the legislative work on population in the individual country in order to solve the problem properly and effectively.

Thank you.

#### DISCUSSION

Mr. Ali from Malaysia: Mme. Chairperson, thank you very much. I am very touched with your presentation and China is one of the best case studies as far as discussion on population and development is concerned due to their huge population of 1.1 billion by the year 1989. And according to your paper, average number of work seekers will reach 10 million each year. So my question is that your suggestion, as far

as China is concerned, there are three strategies in facing the huge population of China. One is controlling population growth and improving the quality of birth. And two is the emphasis on agriculture. And three, to tackle the aging problem, that is the social security system. But anyway, what I would like to know more, as far as job seekers, to create job opportunities in China with the demand of ten million job seekers. So do you think that three strategies that have been adopted by China at the moment can succeed in the future. Because we know that as far as China is concerned, the falling investment is not that much encouraging. I was told, no doubt you have your own economic program, but how are you going to create job opportunities in the future? Could you explain to us in more detail? I do not know because I only read through the papers. But I would like to know because we are very impressed also, that with 1.1 billion population still China is able to have a strong political stability compared to other states or other countries, with only 5 to 10 million people and economic resources but cannot stand on their own as far as the economic development is concerned.

Mr. Hu Keshi: About 90% of people are working in the various professions in the city. And we can also encourage the street enterprises. The individual enterprises to solve the job creation problem. In the rural areas, we have absorbed about 30% of population to come to township enterprises to work in factories in rural areas. Second, we will adhere to the policy to develop various kinds of businesses and solve the problem in this kind of way to solve the job creation in the rural areas. And I want to emphasize that both in the city and in the country, we are encouraging the individual enterprises in China. And they provide the opportunity for the labor force, and of course, China has a long way to go to solve its problem of overpopulation, but I think we will solve the problem gradually. Thank you.

## Country Paper - India

Population and Development Strategy Towards 21st Century

By

Hon. Mohinder Singh Lather

Member of Parliament

India has a long post-II World War history of development, and of a population policy as its integral part. A series of five-year plans have been completed and we are in the process of formulating the eighth five-year plan. We are a Parliamentary Democracy wedded to secularism and socialism and our approach to socialism is marked by the Government following peaceful transition to modernization through democratic processes. Both development and population policies have remained open to public criticism and non-official evaluation from time to time. They have, therefore, responded to the needs of the people.

Even so, the path of development has remained tortuous for the simple reason that the economy is an open one subject to influences from the international economic order. Planning began in 1951 but before the end of the 1950s, the major problem of the needed foreign exchange emerged. That constraint has always thwarted our development process and it was grievously accentuated by the World Oil Crisis of 1973. The development process was upset by conflicts with China in 1963 and with Pakistan in 1965 and 1971. Then there have been a series of droughts that necessitated large scale imports of food-grains especially during the late 1960s. Now I hope that Japan will help us in the drought problem. On account of such constraints, the long term growth rate has been only between 3 to 4 per cent, which is frankly inadequate to take the economy on to a path of sustained, self-reliant growth. The potential for growth exists but in per capita terms it has been shrinking all through this period.

The growth rate today is over 5 per cent per year and there are reasons to believe that it will be maintained at this level for a long time in the future. Because, despite many hurdles and disappointments, the economy has greatly expanded and diversified. The base for further growth has been created in terms of heavy and key industries, power generation, irrigation, transport and communications. Underdeveloped though it continues to be, India has acquired a measure of self-sufficiency in food production, and emerged as a leading industrial nation among the developing countries. Further, it has made a rapid progress in the diverse

fields of science and technology and it possesses a highly sophisticated and diversified pool of scientific manpower which ranks third in the world in terms of size. Our achievements are considerable; they would have been much remarkable had we not been forced to undertake large outlays on national defense. We have preached and practiced 'Panch Sheel' but the international politics has not left us alone and has tried from time to time to upset our consistent pursuit of peaceful co-existence.

One of the major failures of development has, however, been its inability to prevent exacerbation of population growth despite the relentless pursuit of family planning as an official program. The need to curtail population growth was realized in 1959 at the very initiation of development and population policy directed towards achievement of the goal. Since then, the official program has expanded to envelope the entire country but it has not yielded the desired results. We have evaluated the performance of the program from time to time and have come to the conclusion that its professionalization, bureaucratization and technocratization have been its undoing. For several years now, we are engaged in transforming the program into a people's movement not merely for curtailing fertility through modern contraception but also for mother and child health care, nutrition, women's development and other elements of social change that are prerequisites for fertility regulation. We are now wedded to the development of our human resources so that they are enabled to make their full contribution to the processes of development. Here, we have laid overriding emphasis of full and unfettered participation of women in development program and family planning.

As it requires two to make a quarrel, it takes two to make a child. Similarly, it requires two to stop the escalation of population. Women cannot be ignored, even in their absence. Madame, with your permission, I will narrate an incident.

Our field marshal, General Melekshar, when at a gathering he was being praised by so many that he was a brave son of the country, everybody is proud of him, this and that. And when Mr. Melekshar stood up to speak, he said that he wished that his wife would have been there to hear his praise as what people think of him because in the eyes of every wife, husband is a fool.

Social development is now focused on raising the age of marriage, on spacing of births, on the acceptance of the small family norm, on education and employment of women, on the role of women in decision-making within households on

healthy socialization of children, on eradication of outmoded customs and traditions regarding marriage and marriage ceremonies and on total removal of gender differentiation in education, health, economic and social welfare. All these cannot be accomplished by legislation; they call for voluntary effort in a massive scale. Leadership from all the varied fields of public life and at all the different levels of society and policy has to be galvanized for the purpose. While family planning and health services may continue to function more effectively and purposefully, the prerequisites for their successes from the side of the people have to be realized. It is in this regard that the role of Parliamentarians assumes great importance.

Social justice, self-reliance, basic minimum needs, eradication of want, misery and poverty are the accepted attributes of the development process. They have not been realized so far because planning was necessarily centralized. In the initial stages, there was the need to take a total view of the resources available for development and so a macro-level planning system had come into being. It has run its full course and now calls for reconsideration. One of the main reasons for this is that the principal resource is now embedded in the mass of humanity that continues to expand rapidly. It is no more possible to exhort these people at the grass-roots level to do their duty to the nation, namely that of preventing births forthwith. No amount of pleading with them will help. They must be made to realize that control of fertility is in their own interest particularly if they desire to prevent the decimation of their environment and invite thereby their own doom. This decentralization of economic, social and political decision-making structures has begun in India by the steps the Central Government is taking to revitalize and strengthen the local bodies, including village councils (the Panchayats) and the urban local authorities. It is hoped that their direct involvement in policy making relating to their life support systems, and so to the quality of their life, will at the same time, awaken them to the responsibilities they owe to their own families, communities and the society at large in the matter of averting the explosion of population growth. Macro planning had left them unaware of the 'tragedy of commons' they had been subjected to, from which only micro planning can rescue them. Decentralization has, therefore, become inevitable.

Decentralization of political, economic and social power can, however, succeed only if the people acquire the necessary capabilities to exercise power with wisdom. That power has to be used in the general social interest of which the

people at large are unaware. They are ignorant, illiterate and hibernating in traditions, customs and superstitions that sustain their backwardness. They have, for centuries, lost their independence of thought and behavior and are easily misled into anti-social irrational behavior patterns. This irrationality is leading not only to accelerating growth in their numbers but also damaging the environment within which they live and destabilizing their social fabric; witness the violence, that goes in the name of terrorism, that grips most developing countries. The expanding mass of youth have to go without education, health care and meaningful employment. Hence, the need to tailor micro level development to the needs of people and of their environment. It is for this decentralized self-reliant development at the grassroots level that we have prepared the people in the legitimate hope that such a development will squarely deal with the problem of population.

Decentralization of planning would involve a series of intervening levels each helping to organize the population-oriented development effort. A multi-level planning system is already in existence. The task now is to shift the emphasis from the top to the bottom.

It is in this nation-wide development effort that the parliamentarians have to contribute their utmost. It is they, and only they, who could catalyze social action that would sustain development effort capable of exercising a healthy influence on population dynamics. No amount of information flows can help if the parliamentarians do not mediate in the purposeful use of information.

They can easily gain the confidence of their constituents, organize them for undertaking sustainable development of their micro region, channel the flows of information to the best advantage of the people, help them to use the available abundance of human resources to the fullest possible extent. In all these, the cardinal principle is to regain the balance between human needs and the produce which nature could yield without disturbing its own moorings. In other words, reproduction must balance itself with production without any rape of the environment. This is a challenging task that faces the parliamentarians of India of 800 million. The challenge is accepted and the Indian Association of Parliamentarians is engaged in the task of reorienting the minds and styles of functioning of its members so that they carry down to the grassroots level the beacon light of population-development integration in the interest of lifting the quality of life up for the common people, especially for the most deprived and underprivileged among them. They help as

makers of law but more than this, they undertake to lead the people in social development and to act as a bridge between the people and the administration. Above all, they are the catalysts of social transformation of the kind that establishes congruence between social goal of population stabilization and individual interest of raising a family in health and happiness. The task was launched quite some time back, it is gathering momentum and there is no doubt that it will be relentlessly pursued till population stabilization is achieved at a level promising a good enough quality of life for all.

Madame, we are not here not merely to live, but to live well. And it is only possible if we do everything to control the population. In our country, family planning is largely confined to middle classes. Nature takes care of very very rich persons, people whose heirs are usually not many, so that their assets are not divided manifold. It is the poverty which is breeding itself. And we must endure to stop it.

Madame, in the end, I must appreciate these steps being taken by other Asian countries, especially, the Indonesian people to contain the population. Madame, I was greatly impressed by what the great president of Indonesia had to say towards when we called upon him.

Country Paper - Singapore

Population and Development Strategy Towards 21st Century

By

Hon. Sidek bin Saniff  
Senior Parliamentary Secretary  
Ministry of Education

Mme. Chairperson, ladies and gentlemen. I am very honored to be here this morning to this beautiful country. Secondly, my congratulations to the organizers for their ability which encompasses the host country secretariat and the rest of them.

Nation building and economic modernization efforts began in earnest in Singapore in 1965. We were among the Asia's pioneers to incorporate population control program as part and parcel of our socioeconomic strategy. But ten years after that, we faced a problem. At first, population was booming, but after that we experienced an unprecedented decline in fertility. From 6 to 2, and to 1.4 in 1988. When we encouraged to the population, we manage even 2, 1.9. Why? Because the age of first marriage of brides had risen from 23 to 25 where Indonesia tried to encourage from 20 to 25, we already done something without.

Even we, so-called channeled them or tried to influence them. Worse still, those women in ages 30 to 34, about 20%. Even worse, among the males, the population, it rose from 17 to 31%. In other words, they like to remain bachelor until the age of 30. There are several attributes to this murky sort of development. First we have attributed it to industrialization. Economic independence, economic opportunities for women, and then of course all those that facilitated the wide-spread the adoption of an independent nuclear family, no more extended family and limitation of the family size.

The professionals, especially, find it easier to have only one child, and at the most, two without the government trying to encourage them. Second, female employments also smaller. Third, education, the general improvement of education have had a significant impact on changing attitudes towards family planning and fertility regulation. Fourth, public housing. And of course, the last one is health services. Ladies and gentlemen. We tried our best, first to control the population, but after that, we met a sort of unprecedented opposition, so we need to ask our population to increase otherwise replacement will be rather awkward. In other words, if two die and two born, not even 2, 1.9, only the Indian community managed to get exactly

two. Malays are relatively high at 2.6 but the Chinese only 1.8. So roughly it is 1.9 and replacement is not good enough for Singapore, and because of that we have to encourage our population by getting married early and so on and so forth, but not as early as below 20.

You can turn to page 7 for instance -- procreation incentive. You will notice the latest development in Singapore is how to influence our females, especially. Families with their second child delivered before the mother reaches 31 years old of age will receive special tax rebate of \$5,000. But if she were to deliver before the age of 30, we encourage her by giving her \$10,000. But if she can deliver before the age of 28, so much rebate, it is \$20,000. This is the latest trend, or the decision made only recently during our budget debate and hopefully next time we meet here, whether I or anybody else representing Singapore, we will give you a sort of resume what is the impact of the latest measures taken by the Singapore government. As you know, because of this we need to have foreign workers, and our foreign workers is quite large. It is about 200,000. And yet we can only tell the world for this matter, especially our neighbors, that we can only take so much. And this case, it is about 250,000 which is about one fourth of the total working population in Singapore.

Ladies and gentlemen. These are the position in Singapore, slightly different from the others. Maybe more slightly closer to Japan, but of course we are not the so called developed country. More or less the symptoms are there and measures have been taken. We have to really capture the data and monitor the trend. If we can do that, for the next ten years or so, hopefully by 2020 we more or less manage to stabilize the position. Population development, because we always believe, the success of Singapore's new population policy and its economic strategy toward the 21st Century would depend largely on the maintenance of the fine balance between population and economic goals via economic or resource development. With that in mind I thank you.

#### DISCUSSION

Mr. Sato from Japan: I would like to ask a question with regard to your policies and measures and concerning the welfare of the senior citizens. Thank you.

Mr. Sidek from Singapore: If you refer to page 8, you will notice the aging population. Aging population has been identified as the major challenge that will confront the

country. And it is stated there that Singapore's population of 8 percent over age 60 in 1988 will increase to 11 percent by the year 2000, and to 25 percent, as bad as Japan if not worse, by year 2030. So the aging of the labor force and inadequacy of labor supply to sustain a modern industrial economy in the future could hamper our Singapore's development.

So recognizing of this particular area, we have formed, recently, a committee to look into the overall aging population of Singapore. One of which, the most important position, I think, is quite similar to Japan. And that is that morale of the aging must be maintained. First, encourage companies to follow the government, that instead of retirement age at 55, you will increase it to 60. So, give them another 5 more years time. In fact, they can still contribute, many of them, only those whom we consider as the Category 1, like your so-called corporate managers and so forth with due respect to the others. But we are quite sure this is one of the most, if not the most important decisions.

Number two, I am indeed glad to watch over your presentation yesterday. Where opportunities are given to our aging population, not old people, but experienced people - they do not like to be called "old." We would like to see them contribute to the society in our constituencies, ask them to relate how they lived during Japanese time whatever it is, during the booming time, during the hard time, and these are the epitome of what should be done at this particular time. Especially, they are the so-called pioneers just like the Japanese.

Thirdly, they should be given some other advantages. For instance, they go to MRT, our trains, tube, busses. Some of them are paying half price, taken care of by committee leaders and so forth. These are the incentives that we think will encourage further health and active participation by our elders. And mind you, I am only 10 years from that particular area.

Country Paper - Japan

Population and Maternal and Child Health in Japan

By

Eimatsu Takakuwa, M.D.  
Senator, Japan

Mme. Chairman. Ladies and gentlemen.

I would like to talk about the demographic trend in Japan in the past half century and Japanese policy programs regarding maternal and child health and family planning.

The Japanese population exploded after World War II, from 72 million in 1945 to 83 million in 1950, due to the baby boom associated with the marriage rush after the war in addition to numerous repatriates coming back to their home land. The crude birth rate in 1947 was 34.3 to one thousand.

During this period of time, people suffered from food shortage, the housing situation was miserable, and overall living conditions were severely deteriorated especially in urban areas. The baby boom ended, and the birth rate began to drop sharply. It seemed that people had to realize that "small family" was rather desirable in such difficult living conditions.

In 1948, the Eugenic Protection Law was enacted, and induced abortion became legitimate under some restricted conditions, including the protection of maternal health. Furthermore, in 1949, economic difficulty was included as a legitimate reason for induced abortion. However, it is needless to say that induced abortion is not at all a recommendable measure in terms of maternal health. Realizing the necessity of appropriate family planning, the Japanese Government started a family planning program in 1952. This program was very effective to control excessive increase in population, but the main and fundamental objective of the program was the protection of maternity and the respect to women's right.

Of course, the protection of child health was another important policy goal. The Child Welfare Act was established in 1947, which served as a foundation for the Japanese administrative policies for child health as well as the protection of maternity. As a part of child health protection programs, the Government started maternal and child health guidance, provided measures to protect premature infants, established maternal and child health centers to promote delivery in the hospital, organized a visiting health advis-

er system for newborn babies, began to conduct health examinations for the three-year old. Consequently, infant mortality declined at a rapid pace.

Finally in 1965, the Maternal and Child Health Act passed the legislature. At that time, the Japanese economy was experiencing rapid growth, and the hygiene level was greatly improved. Under such circumstances, health programs to facilitate maternal and child health such as health examinations and health guidance were vigorously carried out, supported by the principle of the Maternal and Child Health Act. A variety of research projects were started in this field, and a mass screening was initiated to prevent mental and physical disability including congenial abnormal metabolism which can be prevented through early diagnosis and treatment. In addition to the National Health Insurance program which had already protected all Japanese citizens in 1961, maternal and child medical care at public expenses was subsequently substantiated. The prenatal death rate and the mortality of pregnant women have sharply dropped. In recent years, the infant mortality in Japan has remained to be among the lowest in the world.

Now, let me briefly discuss the trends in the major indices of maternal child health in Japan.

The birth rate has dropped sharply after the baby boom, and it fell below 20 in 1955, and then, the birth rate leveled off at 17 and 18. From the late 1960s through the early 1970s, the second baby boom pushed up the birth rate a little because the first babyboomers reached their child-bearing age. Since this second baby boom was over, however, the birth rate has continued to decline. In 1988, the number of newborn babies was 1,314,000 and the birth rate was 10.8. The total fertility rate, which indicates the average number of children one woman gives birth to, went down below 2.1 in 1960 and 1.66 in 1988, the lowest level in the world. The birth rate has declined to such a low level and there is some fear in Japan that this low birth rate might have adverse effects on the social environment in which children grow and the vitality of the society.

The infant mortality rate was 60 per one thousand live births in 1950, twice as high as that of the U.S.A. and United Kingdom. I can say the subsequent tremendous decline in the infant mortality rate was one of the greatest achievements of the maternal and child health administration in Japan. As of 1988, the infant mortality is 4.8 per 1,000 live births, the lowest level any nation has ever achieved. Recent statistics on the causes of infant death indicate

that pneumonia and diarrhea decreased sharply. The number one cause of infant death is respiratory abnormality, the second is the injury at delivery, which is followed by low-oxygen syndrome, asphyxiation at delivery and other types of respiratory distress syndrome.

The perinatal infant mortality rate is defined in Japan as the total number of stillbirth after 28 weeks of pregnancy and infant death within 6 days after birth (early neonatal death) and it is indicated as the number of deaths against 1,000 births. The perinatal infant mortality rate is considered to reflect the health conditions of mothers and health care level before and after childbirth. Currently, the perinatal infant mortality rate is 6.5 as of 1988, which is considerably low against international standards.

The maternal mortality rate was 9.6 per 100,000 live births in 1988. Like other death rate indices, it has been declining every year. Yet, when compared to the U.S. and European countries, there is room for improvement.

I would like to introduce the present situation of health protection measures for mothers and children which have been given high priority in the Japanese population policy.

The national government, local governments, and municipal authorities share the responsibility for the protection of maternal and child health. Community organizations and private volunteer groups and also playing a significant role in promoting health care and family planning programs in cooperation with the administration.

More specifically, the national government sets up basic policies and technical guidelines by establishing laws and regulations, drawing up budget (subsidies), and giving administrative orders. The national government has been improving the fundamentals of these programs, offsetting the regional differences, and encouraging research programs.

Local governments issue Maternal and Child Health Handbook, give health guidance to mothers and children, conduct health examinations for pregnant women and infants, take measures to treat premature babies, and cover a part of medical expenses for mothers and children. Local governments have been playing a key role in managing maternal and child care programs. Supported by local governments, actual health services and medical operations are carried out by about 850 public health centers all over Japan, which have doctors, public health nurses, and other expert staff.

This network of public health centers and the distribution of Maternal and Child Health Handbook are the most prominent feature of the maternal and child health program in Japan. A Maternal and Child Health Handbook is issued when a woman become pregnant and report her pregnancy to the municipal authority. The Handbook serves as a health record of a mother and her child. Pregnant women and mothers always carry their handbooks with them, and they are very useful for health education and medical examinations.

Municipal governments such as cities, towns, and villages take a responsibility for providing health guidance and advice concerning everyday living and activities of mothers and children.

Among local resident volunteers, there are "maternal and child health promoters," who conduct various health promoting activities, being entrusted by local authorities, and "the Society for the Care of Maternity and Children," which are independent private organizations. These volunteer activities are indispensable to providing necessary and useful health care information to local residents.

In closing my speech today, I would like to mention our problems and future tasks regarding the Japanese demographic trend.

Population increase after the war has been successfully controlled as the dramatic decline in the birth rate clearly indicated. It is estimated that the total Japanese population will reach its peak of 136,000,000 in 2013, level off for a while, and then start falling gradually.

Family planning and health education to provide useful knowledge about family health together with the improvement and expansion of medical services, have been playing a significant role in Japan in successfully maintaining the low birth rate and death rate.

As I mentioned earlier, maternal and child health conditions have made a steady progress in Japan since World War II, and public health care has shown a remarkable improvement. On the other hand, however, the lower birth rate has inevitably brought about the decrease in the number of children, or the increase in the number of "nuclear families." Furthermore, the social environment surrounding mothers and children has been changing drastically, affected by urbanization, social participation of women, aging population, and so forth. Life style has been so diversified that there are stronger and more pressed need for high-quality maternal and child

health care. It can be said that Japan is now facing many difficulties to be solved in order to sustain future growth of Japanese society. It is an urgent task for us to promote, from a fresh point of view, carefully thought-out maternal and child health policies and to take effective measures to cope with the problems of the aging society.

Thank you.

Country Paper - Nepal

Population and Development Strategy Towards 21st Century

By

Hon. Tika Jung Thapa  
Chairman, Rastriya Panchayat Forum on  
Population and Development

Mme. Chairman, distinguished participants, ladies and gentlemen.

First of all, I want to express sincere thanks on behalf of my delegation, and on my own, to the organizers for giving us the opportunity to participate in this important meeting on Population and Development participated by, among others, the parliamentarians of Asia-Pacific region. I also want to express thanks to our host and, in particular, Indonesian Forum on Population and Development for their excellent arrangement to make the meeting a success. This type of meeting, Mme. Chairperson, I am confident - and in this issue I can safely speak, I hope, on behalf of all participants - will be very helpful to learn from each others experience to enable us to evaluate past performances, to identify current bottlenecks and to draw a plan of action to integrate population factors into the national development planning process.

The population problems in the Asia - Pacific region, Mme. Chairperson, is relatively more complex compared to other regions of the world. In some countries, the rapid decline in fertility coupled with increase in life expectancy have resulted in the aging of population with many elderly facing health, psychological and economic problems. In few other countries, however, the demographic transition as those experienced by newly industrialized countries of Asia - Pacific region will not be possible without strong fertility reduction efforts. The fertility rate in Nepal, is also relatively high compared to other developing countries of the region while mortality rate has continued to decline due to improvement in health services, nutrition and education factors. This has resulted not only an increase in population growth rate but also in keeping its momentum for growth as the number of young women entering their reproductive years exceed the number moving out of their reproductive years. It is, however, well realized that an acceptable economic and social development cannot be achieved without a reduction in the current high levels of fertility and population growth rates.

His Majesty's Government, on the recommendations of the National Commission on Population, the highest policy making institution in the field of population chaired by Rt. Hon'ble Prime Minister, has approved a five point strategy to reduce the fertility rate to the replacement level by the end of current century. The population policy of His Majesty's Government, Mme. Chairperson, has been framed to give greater focus and coordinated direction to demand, supply and institutional aspects of contraceptive services phenomena. In its attempt to deal with the issue of high fertility, in the context of overall development policies and especially the emphasis given to decentralized scheme, the National Population Strategy, adopted by His Majesty's Government contends that effective treatment of contraceptive services issues must be seen and dealt with by communities themselves.

The detail plan of action that can translate the declared objective into a reality has already been developed to bring the command into direct contact with those whose needs are ultimately to be served or whose preferences in matters of reproduction are to be shaped and modified. It is believed that local interest in reducing fertility must emerge naturally from the local development concern in that the use of contraceptive must come to be seen as its own reward. Under the decentralization scheme adopted by the Government, the development functions that command the widest possible local concerns are devoted to the local community themselves. This program has strong support both at national and local levels. Recent information also indicate a declining trend in the fertility rate. Forum for Population and Development of the Rastriya Panchayat has also initiated a number of measures to help His Majesty's Government to attain the declared fertility goal.

Under the dynamic leadership of His Majesty the King Birendra Bir Bikram Shah Dev, we, at present, are involved in implementing various development works designed to fulfill the basic needs of the people by the end of current century. A detail plan of action, popularly known as Basic Needs Program, has already been published. Population and development policies has been formulated to reinforce each other to raise the quality of life of the people through appropriate integrated planning at policy, program and project level.

It is our belief that lower fertility would not only reduce infant and child mortality but also provide the household with added opportunities to invest additional resources to the health, food and schooling performance of the child. The investment in human resources, Mme. Chairperson, special-

ly in a country like ours characterized by narrow resource base and limited absorptive capacity due largely to inadequate infrastructure base, particularly roads, in a difficult geographical setting, will help to break the intergenerational cycle of poverty. A high level committee consisting of the members of national legislature has, therefore been constituted to monitor the implementation of Basic Needs Program.

The demographic and development target that we have adopted presents a great challenge to all of us. I am happy to note that the general political stability enjoyed by the country in the past three decades under the Panchayat System has provided a favorable climate to increase investment in both rural and urban areas. The detail programs with respect to basic need and population are now in place. The progress achieved in recent years was relatively satisfactory, and the future prospects appears very encouraging.

The clear picture in this respect was provided by our beloved monarch and I quote "The Panchayat System has in three decades of its history produced panchas and workers of different class organizations in every village. Mobilization of this manpower in the realization of the nation's commitment to fulfill the basic needs of those living below the subsistence poverty level is a challenge, which tackled properly, offers the prospects of national development."

I thank you.

#### DISCUSSION

Indonesian participant: Mme. Chairperson. I would like to know much the participation of religious groups in your country. The second, may I know much about the promoted participation of youths in your country. Thank you.

Mr. Thapa: Mme. Chairperson. Well, Nepal is a Hindu country, but we do not have so many classifications, we do not classify the religious factor. So we are confident that small family is a happy family. So under that philosophy we are moving. And so far as youths are concerned, I was previously the General Secretary of the Youth Organization in Nepal, so I have seen a lot of remote areas within the country and outside the country. So the Youth Organization in Nepal is rapidly working. Marriage age is 18 for women and 20 for men.

By law, it has given 18 years for women and 20 for men. In

spite of that, young people feel that I can stand with my own lead, they do not marry. That is what the philosophy is creating. The tendency created among the young.

Mme. Chairperson: What is the percentage of youths in employment and unemployment?

Mr. Thapa: Well, underemployment problem is there. We agree. But so far, as far as unemployment problem is concerned, we have 10 or 12%.

Mme. Chairperson: We have finished the presentation of papers this morning. But before we sign off, I think because we did not have much time just now to ask from all the presenters some questions, or if you have some information that you need, I would like to open to the floor questions from all the countries that have presented their papers this morning. China, India, Singapore, Japan, and now Nepal. You can have the floor.

Indonesian participant: Thank you very much for this opportunity. On page 5, it says, "The decentralization of political, economic and social power can, however, succeed only if the people acquire the necessary capabilities to exercise power with wisdom. The power has to be used in the general social interest of which the people at large are unaware. They are ignorant, illiterate and hibernating in traditions customs and superstitions that sustain their backwardness. They have, for centuries, lost their independence of thought and behavior and are easily misled into anti-social irrational behavior patterns. This irrationality is leading not only to accelerating growth in their numbers but also damaging the environment within which they live and destabilizing their social fabric; witness the violence, that goes in the name of terrorism, that grips most developing countries. The expanding mass of youth have to go without education, health care and meaningful employment."

I want to know how India can succeed with this background. This is the first question. The second question, because India is a Hindu country that advocates caste. And how is the people with their family planning?

Mr. Lather from India: Mme., with your permission, I would like to answer the second question first. My friend has stated that India is a Hindu country. I do not agree with his observation because India is a secular country. And as far as other religions are concerned, I think it is the largest Moslem country in the world. You cannot say that India is a Hindu country at all. It is a secular country

where all these religions are accommodated and are living side by side.

Now about the first question, about this whole, whatever you have read, although I have tried to give the true picture. These are the difficulties, and these all difficulties are created due to lack of education. Literacy is not very much there in our country, and lack of literacy leads to all these difficulties and that is why those ignorant people, the illiterate people, they do not understand what to do, what is good for them, what is beneficial for them, how to contain the family. They would think that suppose a family has got four children, and there is a fifth child, that additional child will become a labor force earning at least 20 rupees a day. Even the children are being exploited, they are compelled to work and they do not get education from the very beginning. That is the difficulty. So, we are insisting that education must be encouraged at any cost. When literacy increases, I think, ignorance will decrease and people will understand by themselves that it is in their own interest to keep their family small.

Mr. Ali from Malaysia: Mme. Chairperson. It is a mere academic opinion that when we discuss about population and development, there is one thing that crosses our mind as Nepal has said just now. It is that we believe that small family is a happy family. Well, I share the same opinion. But generally speaking, I am not referring to any mere academic opinion. We have seen that countries with small population also facing a problem of poverty, housing problems, getting better education etc. So, I would like to refer to Japan, and for that matter, Singapore are a very good example. Even South Korea and some other countries. They do not have much natural resources. For example, Singapore. For that matter, Japan. We have seen how Japan has been built after the Second World War experience. No doubt they have aging population problem at present, but we have seen that compared to other underdeveloped countries where we are facing all kinds of problems as far as the increasing population is concerned. So what I would like to say here is that as India put it in their power that "People should exercise power with wisdom." And at the same time, I believe that those who are in power should exercise their power wisely, meaning to say that I believe also in facing the aging population and development problems in underdeveloped countries, the planners, even the people who are in power, not only to govern wisely, but to use all the natural resources in a proper way, meaning to say we have seen that some experience where public funds, even the corruption, is one of the problems that cause indistribution of wealth and

job creation and et cetera. I feel this is very important because we have seen that huge big buildings have been built, whereas we are talking about housing problem for the masses. So this other problem I feel should be given concentration, I mean it is a matter of sharing opinion. Just a matter of academic opinion. That is why I praise very much Japan, for example, when they have the problem, even the leaders are very sensitive when we have seen the problem. The leaders of political parties will question of the integrity. This other things that we see is to exercise power with wisdom. I am referring generally. I am not putting up to any country. Even I very much like to speak well about my country. This is a matter of purely academic opinion. Thank you very much.

Mme. Chairperson: Singapore would like to respond please.

Mr. Sidek: Mme. Chairperson. First of all, it reminds me of Eugene Castro. No relation with Fidel Castro. He was the chairman of board of an agricultural organization in United Nations in the 1950s. And he said, "If only the world, the people do not have all this confrontation and wars, United Nations, the world can produce ten times the food for the poor." In other words, he attributed to our own folly. And I think, after 20 years it proved that we are still at that verge. Only maybe the latest development in Eastern Europe giving us something...

Second, I have always believed from the sociological point of view that society exists because of three important factors. Three important criteria. First, the aggregate of individuals. What individuals can contribute, whether they are a doctor, or a taxi driver. You must contribute the utmost, the best you can.

At this point, you must have an organized system. We all have organized systems. Democracy, socialism, whatever you have.

And third, in order for that particular society to exist, you must have a very strong feeling of being together.

With these three criteria, that particular community, that particular society will exist. But existing alone is not enough. You have to exist strong, competitive. And because of this, you have to strengthen at least 6 areas, 6 structures. The structure of your faith. You have religion, your religion. If not, at least faith among human beings. Respect each other.

The second one is a social culture. The third one is the cultural structure, and the third one is the combination of three important elements. And that is your administration, your politics, your economics. And all these 3 structures, 3 areas plus the former 3, 6 altogether, can only be uplifted if we uplift education. The higher the education, the better the structure of these important structural position. That is why I think. I remember one professor said, "It is a sin if industrialization, if technology is the thing, all of a sudden we try to ignore these two important elements. It is not just high education, but what sort of education which is important to your country. Now people are talking about computer. If we still use typewriter, we will be running it good. But mind you, people have changed so fast and computer has changed so fast within months, no more years. So these are the positions which are important.

And as for the last one, my eminent brothers and sisters here. It is that we are living in an information society. Correct information is very important. I think you better learn from the Japanese. The Japanese started getting information not in the 20th century. They have started earlier, hundreds and hundreds of years ago. Getting information is very important because right information, right conclusion, right decision, right projection. Wrong information, wrong conclusion, wrong direction, and I think in this modern time you cannot allow yourself to be in that position.

So the information is very important. I remember when I was in communication department, if you permit this, we were so puzzled, "How on earth. Singapore is such a small country. Our percentage of death on the road is so high. Whereas there are some other countries including Japan, especially, the death roll is so low percentage wise. And whenever we notice, we got the wrong information. At that time, last 8 years, death on the road defined by the Japanese is this. If you are having an accident, you die there and then. That is death on the road. But for the Sigaporian, death on the road is this. You die there and then. Death on the road. You go to hospital after 24 hours, death on the road. After one week, death on the road. After one month, also death on the road. So that is the kind of information wrongly taken then your reaction is totally different. But of course, that one is a kind of mistake which is bearable. But the other mistakes which is unbearable especially in this field of economic, politic, wrong reading, tolerant, happiness, and so forth. So ladies and gentlemen, this is more or less my reaction to my eminent friend from Malaysia. Maybe we can share and I think you can add up anecdote or some other

areas which I can enlighten further myself. Thank you.

Mr. Sato from Japan: Yes. Regarding death toll on road. Well, before I did not know the specific number, however what you have said is a wrong information at this moment. Because, when it comes to traffic accident, of course when there are accidents they get report and people will be hospitalized. And after the accident took place and if the person dies in 24 hours, from that time then it is death right after the traffic accident. So what you have said is a wrong information. So I would like to make a clear definition here. Twenty four hours right after the definition. Long time ago, maybe that time was calculated in a different manner but what you have said was not right.

Dr. Prasop from Thailand: I would like to get some views from our friends about how to solve the problem of migration, especially for urbanization and migration because we all realize the problem of crimes, narcotics and other things. So I would like to get some more information from my colleague from India please.

Mr. Mittal from India: I would like to inform my friend that in our country it is totally different from Western countries. In Western countries, people from the urban areas would like to go to the rural areas for pure air and they want to get away from congestion, rush etc. But in our country, the position is just reverse. People from the rural areas are shifting to urban areas for better employment opportunities, for better amenities, and it has resulted in a rush to the cities and also resulting in many parts of slum areas. So this is the problem. Unless we develop the rural area and provide the same amenities as we are providing in the cities the urban areas, the people will not stop shifting from rural areas to the urban areas.

Mme. Chairperson: Before I give the floor to Malaysia again, is there anybody else who want to respond, or make observations?

Mr. Ali from Malaysia: Thank you Mme. Chairperson. I just would like to add a little bit more that Asian country to my opinion should urge developing countries, particularly to the industrialized countries, looking ahead of the change in trend in these Eastern European countries, because being an underdeveloped country, referring to my country Malaysia, we depend very much on the export earnings. Our rural development so far been considered quite successfully after being implemented by our late Prime Minister where we produced palm oils and rubbers. But all these earnings depend on the

developing countries, namely like Europeans and even Japan. Of course, we depend very much on technology, the know-how, the transfer of technology from developing countries like Japan. The transfer of technology, for example. But we are worried looking at the trend of commodities now. And change in political trend in Eastern Europe where they are going to form what you call a Single European Market. So we believe that some major country like Japan who we depend very much, or South Korea in terms of technology and investment, will divert the attention to this new potential of countries looking ahead, what is happening at present. So I would like to have a comment from Japanese counterpart what they think. Thank you very much.

Mr. Sato: Well what I was planning to do was to put my comment in my last closing ceremony so I was listening to everyone's comment very carefully so that I can make a little summary for my last comment at the closing ceremony. Well, there are so many varieties of opinions in such issues. And in East Europe, there have been so many changes taking place, nobody could image what could happen tomorrow up there. So in such international and political arena, everyone has been realizing what drastic changes have been taking place in East Europe. Taking this fact into consideration, it is very very natural, and we take it for granted that we should take such a trend into consideration. When it come to development and population, issues here, as we have been discussing here and studying here, we have to say one thing. Continuous and thorough effort is what we have to work on and carry out for the future, taking all these changes into consideration. That is my comment.

Mr. Mercado from Philippines: I was listening to all of the comments with regard to the problem of population in this morning's session, and there have been very interesting inputs. The representative from Singapore did mention a quote from Eugene Castro, the fact that world can even sustain 10 times the population if it had abdicated its preoccupation with wars and conflicts. But I would like to put in another dimension to that particular problem. In the context of what I feel is a problem that is relative to us developing nations. And that is the way the society is economically stratified. Resources that have to be distributed in an egalitarian manner, growth and development that is cognizant of equitable distribution of the benefits, I would like to think as all of us I am sure realize, that the question of population is not mere a question of growth rate. It is a question of distribution of resources. And that is one reason why the problem is, and I will discuss later in my paper this afternoon, is grave in our country.

It is two pronged -- it is a question of coping with the population problem and at the same time coping with how the resources are distributed. One engenders the other. It is a relationship in which one factor aggravates the other. But I brought up this point to be able for us to be cognizant of a battle on several fronts with regards to the question of population.

Mme. Chairperson: Thank you. We have five minutes according to my watch. But if you do not have any more observations...

Indonesian participant: Ladies and gentlemen. Poverty makes the population of the family planning not so successful. Developing countries make the industrialization. One industry is fast in the rural area, big factory in manufacturing. And the labor is coming there, but salary is very low. So they make the concentration of poor people in this rural area before people lived very happy there. But now, concentration of thousand people is around the factory. And they destruct the environment. And how can this family planning succeed, if many factories are put in such an area and make the community poorer? So maybe this is a general question. Thank you.

Mme. Chairperson: Well, my arms have been twisted so to speak. We have been told that the time is up. I know now the people are getting into the mood of talking. I think after listening to all the papers this morning, we all face problems of population. We are not just talking about the growth, the reduction on population. But we are now facing the problem of how to get the people what they want. The quality of life.

SESSION IV

POPULATION AND DEVELOPMENT  
STRATEGY TOWARDS THE 21ST CENTURY (II)

Friday, March 23, 1990

Chairperson: Tika Jun Thapa

Country Paper - Malaysia

Population and the Status of Women in Malaysia

By

Datin Paduka Hajah Rahmah Osman, M.P.

Honorable Chairperson, colleagues, I have somehow distributed a paper, but this paper was meant for a women's conference in Delhi. When I got back, I did not have the time to prepare a paper. But I think Malaysia does not face the kind of problem that you people are having, because you are talking about declining population growth, but we are talking about increasing the population growth. So, that is the difference. So, I do not want to go through the paper because I am sure you must have read through.

But I stress on the point in page 5... Here. The policy of the Government in 1984. "The Government promulgated a new population policy with the aim of achieving a population of 70 million by the year 2100. The policy calls for a gradual reduction of total fertility rate so as to reach replacement level by the year 2070."

Now, forget about all that. We are having problems also. We have a different problem. The lifestyle has changed drastically by urbanization. Internal migration, that is the rule of migration streams, is mainly concentrated in metropolitan centers, particularly Kuala Lumpur and the cities around it. Now that is internal, I am talking about internal migration. We are also facing a problem with external migration. Thailand, Indonesia and Cambodia... People are coming into Malaysia now. We have to change the labor policy, but there again, you know, if you change the labor policy, you are entering into the political situation in the country. I do not have to stress this point because I think my Asian would know better, but I wanted to stress this one point to Indonesia in particular.

When you are talking about labor policy in future, we stress the point the Malaysia needs workers because Malaysian young men are getting lazier and lazier except this one. They do not want to work in the field, they do not want to have the labor, you know, that kind of thing. So, if in the next five years Malaysia does not have enough workers, we cannot provide ourselves with enough food, especially rice. We have been importing 60% from Thailand. So very soon, we may not have enough rice to eat in Malaysia. So that is our problem. I will leave it to the delegate to ask questions if you have. Thank you.

## DISCUSSION

Mr. Chairperson: Any questions from the floor?

Only one question about the labor force. Maybe you have some information concerning this.

Ms. Osman: You want more information about this? Well, I do not really have it here with me but, the unemployment rate in Malaysia now is 8% out of 500,000 working youngsters. This is a big problem in Malaysia because they go for white collar jobs, and if they do not have it, they do not want to work. My asking you to be serious in your delivering of this labor policy, I mean within Asia, I would ask you to stress on the point that to legalize illegal practices. That is all. Then you will solve the problems.

Mr. Chairperson: If you continue to have *tanaga haram* there will be a lot more problems. So if you say, "Legalize the illegal practices that are going on," I think you come to certain compromises. My paper to the Government was 7 years ago, on this point. Thank you.

No problem if I raise question to you? I heard that you are one of the opposition leader. Is there any policy in your Government that is entrusting you a fair amount so that you have to decide the policy of the Government relating with the population and development program in your country. For example, about increasing, instead of decreasing, of the number of population.

Ms. Osman: Can you repeat that again?

Sure. Do you have any strong beliefs to make your opposition to the Government, to the policy of the Government, about the population problem in your country? Especially, why other countries try to decrease the growth of population while your country tries to increase it?

Ms. Osman: My being an opposition does not mean that I would object to all the Government policies. I became an opposition because there are certain policies that the Government carries out does not really comply with what has been passed in the Parliament.

But with regard to population policy, we are all for it because I think it is for further development in terms of nation building. I think all Malaysians are for the increase of population. Maybe my friend would like to add. I refrain from the political part of it.

Mr. Ali: Thank you very much for the interesting question. But I would like to make a point that our position is said to be on opposition only on technical matters. It is due to political problem within the party. We too are in the Government. We were elected in the House of Representatives by the people in 1986. It is a technical matter. This is the reason that as far as the development program is concerned, it is a program that have been developed by us together. By all the parties.

So, as far as the population program is concerned, our present leadership believes that Malaysia is no doubt a small country but a county that has been given by God with huge natural resources. It seems that these natural resources have not been fully exploited, and we believe that Malaysia can hold up to about 70 million by the year 2100, but on the condition that, as our friend from Singapore has said this morning, the growth of population must be tallied to the programs like education, or things like that, so as to divert the intention of having a prosperous and good life for the people in Asian countries. It is a small comment made by me. Thank you.

Thank you Mr. Chairperson. In your paper, it is written that non-marriage women are on the rise now. A survey in 1984 found that some 11% of women in ages 30-34. It is amazing for us. I would like to know do they come from high level of education or not?

Ms. Osman: In Malaysia, education is a must. Right? And our illiteracy rate now has come down, if I am not mistaken, to about 2-3%. This is the old group of people who are still living. So, question of marriage age now. Mostly in the urban areas. You see, we are talking about migration. These are the people that, after being educated in the rural areas and migrating to the urban areas, they are not interested in marriage. They are not interested in marriage at all.

Thank you very much. You say that young people in Malaysia are not going to work in rough jobs. It is not a problem for you because you create... Rough work is done by other people, and your own people have high class jobs.

Mr. Ali: Thank you very much. First, we have look back on the history of Malaysia. We have achieved independency in 1957. The moment we achieved independency at that particular time, and bear in mind that Malaysia is also a multi-

racial country. There are three races. The two most dominant races are Malays and Chinese, but not much difference.

So after 1957 when we achieved independence, the education program at that particular time, was solely based to create what you call white collar jobs, meaning to get more Malays big in the Government sector. So after we completed this new economic policy, then we realized, the Government realized that we have neglected producing the blue collar jobs. That is why the growth of vocational education or technical schools in Malaysia is quite slow.

Until now, we are looking to create more vocational trainings and vocational education and things like that. And to follow suit, that is why the Government sector, what you call the concept of privatization, where this is geared towards creating more jobs. It is quite different from Singapore when I heard this morning that they were talking about how to take care of the old and experienced. In Malaysia, the Government encourages now to retire early, even at the age of forty. It is quite different. Different places make different solution.

So Malaysia is very unique because not only we have to look at the things generally, but also we have to look at the ratio of composition. So we are very unique as far as Malaysia is concerned. But anyway, we have come through, and we have experienced some successful programs. And I believe, looking ahead, provided, as far as my personal view is concerned, so long as everybody uses their power wisely, I think we will be prosperous.

Country Paper - New Zealand

Population and Development Strategy Towards 21st Century  
By  
H.E. Mr. Fred Gerbic, M.P.

Mr. Chairperson, fellow parliamentarians and participants to this conference on population and development, it is my honor and pleasure to present this paper to you as a representative from New Zealand. New Zealand, as you know, is a relatively small country with a population of 60 million sheep and 3.4 million people. So, it is a case of minority exercising authority over the majority. It is expected, however, that New Zealand's population will grow to somewhere between 3.6 million and 4.1 million by the year 2006.

The New Zealand population is currently growing more rapidly than most populations in developed countries, and over the next 60 years it is anticipated that the rate of growth will drop to levels common in European countries.

The age structure of the New Zealand policy makers and planners some opportunity to learn from the experiences of those other countries as they cope with issues such as population aging. The Maori people are the indigenous people of New Zealand.

Within New Zealand there are three demographic transitions occurring simultaneously. The non-Maori population is following the European pattern which is characterized by low fertility and a shift toward an older population structure. The Maori population is in a transitional stage between developed and developing countries and is characterized by low fertility and a young age structure. The Pacific Island Polynesian population is in an earlier stage of transition characterized by high fertility and a young age structure.

There is therefore considerable demographic diversity between ethnic sub-populations within New Zealand.

New Zealand's population is highly urbanized and is unlikely to experience significant de-urbanization over the next 60 years.

In an international context New Zealand is seen as an immigrant receiving country. Within the last week the New Zealand Government announced a new immigration policy which would see a net inflow of 10,000 people into New Zealand annually.

Despite a current low rate of population growth New Zealand's population is still increasing more rapidly than many other countries. During the early 1980s the New Zealand population was growing at a rate faster than that of all developed countries taken together and three times as fast as many countries in Europe.

The growth was comparable to that of North America but below that of Australia. New Zealand has continued to experience a rate of natural increase that is higher than that found in developed countries generally. This is due in large part to New Zealand's young age structure forged by the post-war baby boom and immigration resulting in a greater proportion of the adult population being at child bearing ages.

The reality of slow population growth since the mid 1970s coupled with the likelihood that there will be an absolute decline in numbers of people next century, has generated interest among both policy makers and members of the public about future demographic prospects for New Zealand. Debate on this topic has tended to focus on two themes: the size of the population and the contribution which external migration might make to both demographic as well as economic growth. In terms of a context within which population policy in New Zealand should be debated, however, it is essential that changes in the age structure of the population rather than increases in absolute numbers of people in the country, are kept firmly in focus.

The present age structure of New Zealand will ensure an excess of births over deaths for about four decades even if there are constant net migration losses of 5000 per year. Changes in natural increase will be quite irregular reflecting periodic shifts in the numbers of births as the size of the population in the reproductive age groups fluctuates. If the projected total fertility rate approximates future levels then with net migration gains of even 5,000 per annum the annual number of births will rise from 59,000 in 1989 but will level out at a lower rate by the year 2051.

The most important implications of policy change during the next 60 years will come from transformations in age structure and changes in the ethnic composition of New Zealanders.

The population in New Zealand next century will be very different to that which is currently present. Even without significant changes in immigration there will be more ethnic diversity. From being a country of predominantly young

families there will be far more middle-aged and elderly people. Regional population differences already evident will intensify. Increasing urbanism is creating larger metropolitan centers that are very different from rural and small town New Zealand. This trend toward greater heterogeneity is likely to manifest itself in changes in taste attitude, behavior and values, in all the facets of New Zealand life that might loosely be described as culture.

There will be changes in the age and ethnic composition of the population and these changes in turn will effect issues such as language and cultural continuity. Some of the effects of the aging of populations are predictable but some are less clear such as which shifts in tastes and values are the result of cumulative generational experience and which shifts may be directly attributable to age itself. Nevertheless it is likely that future generations of the elderly will be somewhat different from those of the past and that the clustering of a significant proportion of the population at older ages will have an impact on many aspects of New Zealand life. National and sub-national identity will be affected not only by changes in ethnic and age composition but also by the size and distribution of the population.

As New Zealand approaches the 21st century it faces a demographic phenomenon common to other developed countries - the greying of its population.

Between 1951 and 1988 the number of persons aged 60 and over in New Zealand almost doubled from 256 thousand to 502 thousand with the growth rate averaging 1.8% per annum. The pace will slow down significantly over the next decade as the small birth cohorts of the depression years enter retirement ages. By the year 2001 New Zealand's elderly population will number close to 600 thousand.

The elderly population of New Zealand is projected to grow rapidly after 2005, when the survivors of the post-war baby boom generation turn 60. With the growth rate averaging 2.3% per annum and their number increasing by over 300,000 in the 15 years between 2016 and 2031, there will be over 1.3 million persons aged 60 and over by 2031, roughly twice the number in 2001.

One in four New Zealanders will be over the age of 60 and half will be over 40 by the year 2031.

Because fertility in New Zealand commenced its downward trend later and did not fall as low as in other developed countries population aging in New Zealand is expected to be

less pronounced than in the other developed nations but it is nevertheless significant in proportion to the population as a whole and especially so in consideration of our social obligations to the elderly.

New Zealand is progressing through great social and economic change. Issues are being addressed of fundamental significance in all areas of public and private sector activity. The changing human face of New Zealand must be specifically addressed.

There are three population mechanisms - birth, death and migration, and their demographic outcomes, population size, age, sex and ethnic composition and population distribution. It is those mechanisms and outcomes which will determine the human face and influence many dimensions of life in New Zealand.

## Country Paper - Philippines

### Population, Human Resources and Development Strategies in the 21st Century

By  
Senator Orlando Mercado

Good afternoon everybody. The paper in front of you is the paper that has 21 pages. We have 10 minutes and that means that I am going to just touch on the few points and those who are interested in some clarifications, we can do it outside of this particular session.

From 19.2 million people in 1948, the Philippine population grew at about two and a half times more in 1980 at 48.3 million people. While the intercensal population growth rates have declined from 3.1 percent annually between 1945 and 1960, to about 2.7 percent in the seventies, absolute population increases have been larger (11.4 million from 1970 to 1980) than in the past between 1948 and 1960, that is about 7.9 million. Recent estimates by the University of the Philippines Population Institute placed Philippine population at 59.0 million in mid-1989, with an average growth rate of 2.4 percent.

Now, earlier, the Philippine population program had some initial successes. However, the gains attained during the early years of the program were not sustained. We had changes in the leadership, and the population commission board and population commission secretariat, lack of coordination among the participating agencies and the problems of program implementation into field level. Hence, there was a slackening in the reduction of the fertility rate.

I would like to add too, that the lack of momentum was fueled also by an anemic approach to the population problem after the 1986 event that installed Corazon Aquino as the President of the country. And there were some underpinnings to this. One of it is the role of religion. And they were new to be between natural family planning methods as against artificial family planning methods.

These, as to my mind, has taken away the wind from the sail, so to speak. However, upon the installation of President Aquino in 1986, the new Government immediately drafted an agenda for people-powered development. The objectives were twofold; in the short-term, the restoration of economic recovery, and democratic institutions and processes that had swept away the previous regime, and in the medium term, the

attainment of sustainable economic growth, poverty alleviation, generation of more productive employment and promotion of equity and social justice.

This is what I mentioned earlier this morning, the fact that while we have a population problem, we also have a serious problem with the way our society is stratified economically. And the approach to the population problem cannot be merely a matter of demographics, but has to address a pressing problem of distribution of resources. And also, the question of growth versus equity distribution is a debate that goes on in our country, largely because of the fact that most of our neighbors here in Asia have growth rates that are healthy, and have become the examples by which we wish to develop.

In the developing countries such as the Philippines which is not only confronted by a growing population but large debt overhang which drives much needed resources away from more productive activities, the need to address the population problem is indeed imperative. Unfortunately, however, the latest population estimates and projections from the National Economic Development Authority, our economic planning body, based on the 1980 census of population and housing, revealed that drastic reduction in population growth is something which cannot be looked forward to, in at least the next 30 to 40 years. It is estimated that the population will continue to grow and even more than double the 1980 level by the year 2030.

Under alternative fertility assumptions, this population will increase between 97 million and 117 million. More importantly, the critical age group of the next quarter century is the working age population of the labor force. That is, those in 15 to 64 years of age will still constitute more than two-thirds of the population. The Philippine population is a very young population. It is also a population that has a large segment of child bearing potentials that have yet to come.

This indicates that such labor forces that are already being born. It also means that more resources will have to be poured in education, health and nutrition. Now, they have to be done to ensure increased quality of human resources in the future, or 15 year sense. This is critical.

Now, policy strategies. Demographic human resources and development trends over the past decades and the likely population scenario in the future clearly suggest that the government's overall development strategy cannot ignore the

population issue but must deal with it squarely. While recent efforts by the government appears to be well on track, much remains to be done to sustain these gains. There is no room for complacency since a single misstep could lead to shortfalls and setbacks in growth and development in our country.

In the short-term to medium-term, the following strategies and programs will have to be vigorously pursued:

a) maintenance of a proper and stable macroeconomic and financial policy environment that will support the requirements of countryside agro-industrial development and will provide for the efficient generation of domestic resources and the wise allocation of both domestic and external resources according to government priorities. This is expected to provide the environment for increased investments and sustainable economic growth.

b) provision of basic minimum physical infrastructure support particularly in the rural areas to encourage farm modernization and the development of small-scale industries which are employment-generating and will encourage the population to stay in the rural areas. These infrastructure include farm-to-market roads, irrigation, water and power supply.

c) investment in human resource development through the adequate provision and improvement in the quality of social services, particularly in the countryside and those in the bottom 30 percent of the income ladder. There is a need to expand the implementation of poverty-focused, direct assistance programs. For instance, more attention should be given to primary and secondary education since this will help improve productivity of the labor force. Health and nutrition intervention.

At this point, we must already begin to teach our young people at the very early age the question of demographics, the importance of having a planning of population. But we must, before we can do that, resolve the question of the objections on the part of religious leaders with regard to the population programs. If we keep sidestepping this particular issue, our problem will not only stay there in virgin, it will be aggravated and exacerbated, and there will come a time we may not be able to keep up with our neighbors in the population efforts.

We must maintain a stable political environment, as well as continued implementation of administrative reforms. There

in an effort in the Senate and in the House of Representatives to move towards decentralization. In fact, there is even talk amongst our leaders of even restructuring the very basic way the government is made, is so-defined. That means that even a movement works for federalism. Although that is down the road, we hope that we will be able to decentralize our programs and be able to implement our functions.

The complete measures such as the immediate arrest of the previous coup plotters, the political stability that we hope we can ensure in a democracy like ours is not easy in a free-wheeling atmosphere that you find in the Philippines. However, with improvement of government operations and resources in the regional and provincial levels, we hope to hasten also privatization programs and we hope that private sector in the non-governmental organizations will be mobilized as active partners in the identification implementation and monitoring of major development programs.

Meanwhile, long-term measures should strengthen efforts toward fertility reduction as well as the integration of population and development planning. In the case of the former, efforts could range from awareness-raising activities to direct inputs to the family planning program and other health, nutrition and population projects. In the case of the latter, there is a need to strengthen the capability of policymakers and planners to take into account various population and development interrelationships in the formulation of plans, policies and programs through training, research and institution-building activities.

Indeed, this is a tall order and warrants the cooperation of all sectors, public and private sector, and the branches of government, executive and legislative.

I would like to say in closing that the Asian parliamentarians' effort in our interparliamentary meetings, to my mind, have been of really great value to us. Because regarding to population issue, there is some disagreement with the way, with the pace, under which we have undertaken our programs with the executive. And the way our government is structured -- with the executive, the legislative and the judiciary, in the system of checks and balances -- the parliamentary forum provides us with not only the venue to exchange with you ideas and learn from your lessons, but it gives us the sense of urgency by which we can, by policy debates, call the attention of the people to this particular issue because, we know, if we do not do so, our problem will only be aggravated in the future. Thank you very much.

Country Paper - Indonesia

Indonesia's Population and Development Strategy  
Toward the 21st Century

By

M. Alwi Dahlan, Ph.D.

Assistant Minister

Ministry of State for Population and Environment

Thank you Mr. Chairperson, Honorable Parliamentarians and Distinguished colleagues. Before I speak, I would like to ask your attention to file background materials in your kit. One is from President Soeharto, "Transforming Population into an Asset of Development." Secondly, from the Minister of Health, "Improving Population Quality." Thirdly, "Transmigration in Indonesia" from Department of Transmigration. Another one is "Employment Policies in Indonesia" from the Minister of Man-Power, and also from the National Family Planning Board, "Role and Challenge of Family Planning Program in the 21st Century."

So my people does not mention many things, I just try to compress everything. But I would like to ask your attention to look into these paper to see more detail on what I would like to present. In the introduction, I recapped some of the policies of population in Indonesia in the first 25 years, and also the accomplishments in the various sectors which we consider are related to population. I mentioned here some of the progress in the 25 years, especially in terms of population, the decrease of crude birth rate, number of children borne by women over the productive age, for instance, declined from 5.6 in the first five year plan to 3.3 now, so on and so forth.

But the decline in the rate of growth of population has not declined just as fast, now it is around 2.0 and coming down to 1.9 by the end of this five year plan. This is due to the success to health policies and programs which have been able to significantly reduce the death rate and increase the health status of the population at last. I also mentioned the success in the health sector, the gross infant mortality rate has been suppressed, life expectancy at birth has increased remarkably, and nutritional status continues to rise. So what I am trying to stress here, as we look into the population policy and population field as an integration of the various sectors.

I mentioned here that Indonesia's population program are not limited to growth and health matters only, but you have also

a serious problem which is specific to Indonesia in this region. That is, uneven and unbalanced distribution of population. You are now in Jakarta in the island of Java. Java consists of only 7% of the nation's total land area, but this island is occupied by 62% of the total Indonesian population. So from 180 million people in Indonesia, around 112 million live in Java. The rest 80 million spread in the 93% of the island, and some of them are spread out in small islands, we have about 17,000 islands. So you can imagine that we have also the problem of distribution of population. So to alleviate the problem, I mentioned that Indonesia has unique program of what you call transmigration. Some of the English language dictionaries do not have this word in the dictionary. But transmigration aims at moving people to high density regions to areas with low population density in order to promote regional development and relieve population pressure. So this is very important for our population program.

By the end of the 5th 5-year plan, so in the last 25 years, we would already have transmigrated almost 2 million families, almost 10 million people, transmigrated from the densely populated area to outer islands. One of the policies to help this movement of population is also what we call inter-regional employment service, to supply the labor force from densely populated area in Java to sparsely populated area mostly in outer islands. This is done by the Ministry of Man-Power. You can see in the report from the Minister. In the Ministry of Man-Power, there are also policies concerning the work force, policies on increasing productivity, job extensions, and utilization of manpower, manpower planning and so forth.

Educational sector is also considered as one that is related to population area. In this human resource development, I mentioned some figures here. Illiteracy has now dropped remarkably to 2%. But I am not sure whether active literacy is lower or not. Two percent illiteracy rate.

And now we are moving towards the 21st Century. Population will continue to increase as a result of large population proportion of the young age right now. I show here in Table 1 the figures. If you look into the figures in Table 1 in my paper, that is the more optimistic estimate. We will have in the year 2000 around 207 million. But some pessimistic figures mention from 210 to 220. Clearly the large number of large population put a heavy burden on the economy since most of them are not yet productive and capable of only being consumptive.

The main objective of the long-term population policy now is to bring the present natural production rate from about 1.4 to 1.0 between the years 2000 and 2005. That would mean that we will have around 207 to 220 million by the year 2000. This is not of course an easy task since this policy entails to bring the desired number of children of only 2 per family at the most. In 1986, the desired number of children for the Indonesian family was still 3.4, so we have to go some more down. And of course, the aim must be supported by other policies geared towards changing social values and other interventions.

You think that we will face a new demographic problems and challenges. I mentioned here some of the challenges which will be faced in the future. For instance, increasing the number of population in the working age bracket, increase of proportion of women workers in the job market, aging, higher levels of education, more sophisticated diseases of the future and so forth. Here I show some of the figures about the projections. The rate rapid decline scenario shows the absolute number of population between age 20 to 40 will increase significantly. Again, this will create serious employment problem, but the problem is also augmented when we realize that proportion of population age 55 years and over will be increasing remarkably also. So we will have the problem of dependency ratio, higher dependency ratio of those over 65 years old.

Employment problem will also be heightened by the increase in the proportion of women force. Women work not only because of economic necessity, but also due to the increase in education. And availability of more options for the productive women population in the future. We played around several scenarios to set up a better strategy. One scenario shows that from the year 2005 and women will marry at the age of 21 at the earliest. So women have at most 3 children, and by the age of 41 after she took care of the children, and then she would return to the job market. So these old age women will be competing with the younger bracket, for instance.

I mentioned here about the increasing urbanization. In the year 2000, they will be 30%, and somebody said that the whole island of Java will be a city. I do not know whether it will be so or not. So what we are going to do about these changes. In the future, policies to solve population challenges would be different than the current policies, of course. Currently, we concentrate on quantitative policies which focus on controlling the population growth in number. But in the future, it should be added with other policies,

political, social and cultural intervention related to development and environment.

I do not want to read everything about environment in its relationship to population. You already heard yesterday from President Soeharto, Minister Emil Salim and the Speaker of the House. But what I would like to stress is that this relationship, this linkage between population and environment development is made explicit in the Indonesian policy-making sphere. So population policies are implemented by various sectors. We have already seen from the various background paper. But even more important, People's Consultative Assembly in 1988 has decided that the national development strategy towards the future is sustainable development. Meaning again, that environment and development must be considered its interface with population.

Secondly, People's Consultative Assembly has decided that the main goal of the Second 25 Year Development Plan, meaning development from 1994 to 2019, should take as its main goal the creation of the quality of man and society. Population is the broadest sense of the term. The strategy is now being worked out and would be decided by the People's Consultative Assembly in 1992. We always refer to this People's Consultative Assembly as the supreme body to which all parliamentary members belong.

I do not want to mention everything, but as an indication of where we are going, I quote some of President Soeharto's statement. Since I cannot formulate it better than the President, so I put it here, he said, "In the future, quantitative approach through birth control is still necessary but not longer sufficient in view of the future demographic challenges. The demands will be in job opportunities, living facilities, energy, space, as well as natural resources." So the President said that, "Before we enter the new century, demand on scale and so forth is important so that qualitative approach will be very important." "Large population," he said, "does indeed pose an obstacle to development, or burden to the environment when it does not have the appropriate quality." That is why the stress is on quality. Thank you Mr. Chairperson.

## Country Paper - Sri Lanka

Population and Development Strategies for the 21st Century

By

Dr. Neville Fernando  
Member of Parliament

The Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka is an island in the Indian Ocean with a land area of 65,000 square kilometers and a population density of about 250 persons per square kilometer.

The population according to the 1981 census was 14.9 million, and is currently estimated at 17 million. The rate of growth of the population was at its highest between 1946 and 1953. The average annual growth rate during that period was 2.8 percent while it had declined to about 1.7 percent during 1971 to 1981. Since 1981 the growth rate had declined gradually and was reported at 1.2 percent in 1988. The natural increase for that year was estimated at 1.5 percent with a crude birth rate of 20.7 per thousand and a crude death rate of 5.8 per thousand. The net out migration of 3.0 per thousand counts for the difference between the growth rate and the rate of natural increase. As a result of past high birth rates, Sri Lanka has a relatively young population. Nearly 50 percent of Sri Lankans living today have been born after 1965.

Even if the present total fertility rate (TFR), estimated at 2.6 were to decline to 2.1 in the year 2000, the population of Sri Lanka would continue to grow up to 19 million by the end of this century. The reason for this is the past high growth rates, as a result of which the number of married women in the reproductive ages will increase from 2.6 million in 1990 to 2.8 in 2000.

Seventy two percent of the population live in rural areas and more than half the population is concentrated in the districts of south-western part of the island. The country has a high literacy rate of 87 percent. The female literacy rate increased from 44 percent in 1946 to 83 percent in 1981.

### Political commitment to population control

Since independence in 1948, successive Governments have recognized the implications of population growth for economic development and the quality of life of the people and have expressed concern about population growth in Sri Lanka.

Different population policies and programs have been implemented and have achieved varying degrees of success.

The Government in July 1977 proclaimed the following population policy:

"The Government is concerned with the rate of population growth and its policy is to take all meaningful steps to curb unplanned growth of population."

"Enhanced family planning services will be provided by the State and financial incentives with a view to controlling the population explosion will be given to individuals who practice family planning."

"In the field of family planning, emphasis of the Government will be in the field of service oriented programs to enable motivated couples and individuals sterilization voluntarily."

Population policy planning and implementation is vested with the Ministry of Health and Women's Affairs. The Population Division of the Ministry of Health is responsible for policy formulation, co-ordination and monitoring of the national population program. Implementation of the service delivery program is the responsibility of the Family Health Bureau. In addition, the Bureau provides in-service training in family planning and also is responsible for procurement and distribution of contraceptives, equipment and other supplies needed for family planning activities.

The National Health Council chaired by the Hon. Prime Minister is the highest policy making body on health and health related subjects. Population and family planning issues are discussed and policy decisions are taken at the National Health Council meetings which are held once a month.

#### Present policy on population

Contraceptive prevalence increased from 34 per cent in 1975 to 62 per cent in 1987. The use of modern contraceptive methods increased from 19 to 41 per cent during the same period. This increase has been mainly due to an increase in use of sterilization. The use of temporary modern methods showed only a slight change, from 9 to 11 percent. The use of traditional methods increased from 13 per cent in 1975 to 21 per cent in 1981.

It is generally agreed from both a demographic and program

standpoint, that while current levels of sterilization need to be maintained, any further fertility declines will have to be made mainly through the promotion and adoption of modern temporary contraceptive methods and increasing the efficacy of traditional spacing methods. The use of these methods along with the concept spacing of children will be promoted among younger eligible couples.

Therefore, the policy of the Government is to place greater emphasis on modern spacing methods with a view of reaching 57 per cent contraceptive prevalence rate of modern methods and an overall rate of 72 per cent by the year 2000. This will bring Sri Lanka to its goal of achieving replacement fertility by the end of this decade.

#### Population prospects in the 21st century

If replacement fertility (total fertility rate of 2.1) is reached in the year 2000, the population will continue to grow to reach 19 million in the year 2000 and eventually stabilize around 23 million in 2040. The population in the age group 5-14 which corresponds to the school age population, will gradually decrease from 3.7 million in 1990 to 3.4 million in 2000 and to 2.9 million in 2040. Children aged 5 years will decline from 360,000 million in 1990 to 285,000 in 2040 and thereafter remain constant. The proportion of population under 15 years of age will decline from 32 per cent in 1990 to 27 per cent in the year 2000 and to about 18 per cent in 2040. On the other hand the proportion of population aged 65 and over will increase from 5.0 per cent in 1990 to 6 per cent in 2000 and 15 per cent in 2040.

Sri Lanka is expected to complete its demographic transition by the end of this decade. The level of contraceptive use will rise to about 72 per cent of currently married women. Thus population strategies would entail not only maintenance of the high level of prevalence but also improving the quality of services.

Relatively little attention has been given to the long term consequences of successful birth control programs and improved life expectancy at birth, namely, the increasing relative weight of the elderly in the population and growing members of persons surviving to reach old age. The growing weight of the elderly in the population must be considered in overall socio-economic planning and manpower availability, allocation of financial resources to assure income security to elderly dependents, change in patterns of consumption and investment. Such forward planning is particularly crucial in developing countries like Sri Lanka which

will have to adjust to the transition from a young to an aging population structure much faster than did developed countries in the past.

In Sri Lanka the elderly population, aged 60 years and over will increase from 1.3 million in 1990 to 1.7 million in 2000 and to 3.3 million in the year 2020. The Proportion of those aged 60 and over to the total population will increase from 7.7 per cent in 1990 to about 15 per cent in 2020 which will be the highest proportion of elderly in the South Asian region.

#### Development policies and strategies for the 21st century

Since 1977 a new direction has been set for economic policies in a free market orientation. At the same time an programs in education and health services as well as food subsidy with some modifications.

The main objective of recent policies has been to attain a better external and internal balance in resource use through appropriate micro economic management of the country's balance of payments and the budget. Meanwhile, policies were directed to promote investment and economic growth so that employment creation and income generation in the medium and long term approach would alleviate poverty and improve the standard of living of the masses. There has been a conscious attempt to minimize the reliance on subsidies and transfers as means of income redistribution, while encouraging participation in the production processes by low income groups to earn their living.

The development strategies that will be pursued during this decade and which will spill over to the next century would essentially be:

- a) Increase productivity in the plantation agriculture and to reach self-sufficiency in rice and other subsidiary crops.
- b) An export led industrial development

I will stop here.

Country Report - Thailand

Family Planning Program During the  
Next Five Years for Thailand

By

Prof. Dr. Prasop Ratanakorn  
Senator

Honorable fellow parliamentarians and dear friends. In fact, my presentation will be the last one. So, what I beg from you is two more minutes after ten. What I missed yesterday is a presentation of all age my young old friend about the elderly. In fact, we do not have any more generation gap these days. Since we go to disco together. But may I remind you of enjoyment in life. For a youth or a young one, sport, play or love. For a middle age, work, privilege and honor. For an old age, golden age as we say, senior citizen, we are very happy to talk about the past. Look back into the past. Since the presentation about the country report of Thailand is up here in three papers, Family Planning for the Next Five Years, Thailand Success Story and few others. So you can read from those papers. What I would like to say to you about my experience to share with you.

If we look back, my first trip to New York City, in April 1950, 40 years ago. I visited the International Planned Parenthood Association. At that time, there were all kinds of jelly contraceptives. So a boyfriend used to say to a girlfriend, "My dear, have you had jelly for sure?" The girlfriend said, "No, I do not like jelly. I prefer ice cream."

Forty years back. Is this indeed a controversial issue? In Thailand, the first panel among three Ministries, Interior, Health and Education, I was in that first panel. And the debate, it looked like in the parliament house. Thirty years ago, we presented this news in radio programs elevation and mass media. And we set up a committee on sex education. I have been the Secretary General of that committee. We produced five books on family planning, family health, social health, family life education, co-education program. And later on in 20 years, a national development plan was outlined, and last week we celebrated our success story of family health in Thailand.

These success were of three factors. Governmental agencies, good cooperation, and also non-governmental agencies, NGO, especially international agency UNFPA, usually have nice

words for Thailand. And the mass media, people to people programs. In fact, we parliamentarians, as representative of the people, we can do a lot of good things for this program of public education, of public alertness on family planning, family health, or even quality of life.

I used to say in slogan, in Thai, but this is in English. "More babies, more poverty. Two to one, that means one family, is well done. One to one never none. It should try again." As my part. I am going to outline the policy and planning, I think in the future, or even now, for public education, as for myself I have radio program, weekly programs, on radio and also on television. On alertness, we should cover in the area of social crisis that we will result from, say a population problem.

And on education, especially family health education and international cooperation that will lead to national actions. Anyhow, the success will come from continuation, to repeat the actions. And I used to say, the wisdom of how to plan the good policy for the success in this field, it is the wisdom. The wisdom is the knowing what to do next.

There is a story. A patient called the family doctor and told him, "My son swallowed a ball point pen. What should I do? The doctor said, "I shall be in your home in half an hour." So the father asked, "What shall I do while waiting for you to come to my house?" Doctor said, "Just use your pencil instead of ball pen."

Anyhow, we should realize the situation of population problem. And population problem is not only rate, population growth, increase, or reduction or decrease, but also the problem of urbanization, migration that will lead to problem of slums, crime, addiction, prostitution, AIDS and poverty. And also for the social development, the role of development, in the Northeast Thailand right now, we already improved the situation with irrigation and other agricultural activities to be the clean area. That gives rise to economic growth. For example, one of the provinces in the Northeast, set up a factory for tomato juice that we had this morning. Eleven thousand tons per day in production. In bottle or can about 800 tons per day that is exported throughout the world to Europe and United States. This will help 10,000 families. That is one way to solve the migration problem.

And the other things that we are doing now is for human basic needs. We combined the force of Ministries of Interior, Health Education and Agriculture. That is why we use

this term population resources and development among the Asian inter-parliamentarian organizations, Asian Parliament, in the socio-economic matters. And also the maternal-child health centers are all over the country. That solves nutrition problem, immunization and child health, and child development center.

Anyhow, for population, do not forget the increasing number of elderly. So what I used to say, there is a book by a technician saying, "How to be 100 and Enjoy." That is the role of the elderly in the society. Anyhow, now we come to what we are looking for, that is the happiness. Dr. Linus Polling used to say, "What we need -- peacefulness, satisfaction, contentment. This will lead to quality of life and also what we need from origin of quality of life." Again, if I would like to say something about the next Assembly of AFPPD, we will have in Bangkok, 15th to 18th of October. You are all welcome to our general assembly in Bangkok. And as you know in Bangkok, everywhere, even near my house, there is the largest massage parlor in the world. That is one way for family planning. Again, thank you so much my friend for your cordial to us, and also very kind to us, the Thai people, so nice to me and to my country. At the end what we reach to do, we do for good deeds, for the peacefulness and for the happiness of the world over and people of the world. Good, not enough, should be better. Better is not enough. Should be best. Good, better best. Never let it rest. Until you make good better, and your better best. Thank you.

## DISCUSSION

Chairperson Thapa: Honorable parliamentarians and friends. Now we again start our session. And in this session, questions and answers. Those who desire to ask questions, they can ask the questions with the concerning countries member. Thank you.

Mr. Kairupan from Indonesia: The question is with regards to Sri Lanka. I would like to ask concerning how to reach self-sufficiency in rice and other subsidiary crops. Would you please give some regional explanation. Thank you.

Dr. Fernando: I think the Government was up to this year giving subsidy for the fertilizer used by the farmers. But on that base, the World Bank subsidies were cut. So there is no fertilizer subsidy. We are almost on the verge of self-sufficiency. So I think the Minister of Agriculture have thought of a way of helping the farmers by giving them interest-free loans so that the farmers will get the money for fertilizer, and thereby we hope to achieve self-sufficiency.

Dr. Mokoginta from Indonesia: Thank you. I would like to make some comment after my friend from the Philippines. In your paper, the last point, "The momentum of the population problem was not sustained in the late 70s. Moreover, policy with respect to fertility reduction was sometimes unclear, and changes with changes in leadership in the population agency." That means that political instability is an influence in this? That is one point. Second point, Philippine has export... there are many Philipinos abroad, I think it is biggest in Asia. Is this no influence, or is it negative or positive in the population development in the Philippines? Thank you.

Sen. Mercado: I will answer the second question first. Our labor force that is being "exported" cannot constitute to our mind a relief in the pressure of our population problem because they come back. And when they come back sometimes after the absence of several months or years, they make more babies to catch up for the lost time. So I do not think that can be considered as a relief as far as the population problem is concerned.

However, the first question that was raised, we brought up the problem of changes in leadership that amount to as change in policy. A de-emphasis on the question of population, the population problem, combined with a new atmosphere where there is free elections for members of parliament and

local officials who at times have the tendency to sidestep the issue, especially if there are religious objections, has allowed the problem to worsen.

For a while, it was considered a health problem or something in relation to social services, but I guess now more and more it has dawned upon us in parliament, in the Senate, upper house, and in the lower house, that you cannot discuss the issue of ecology, you cannot discuss the issue of housing, you cannot discuss the issue of employment, you cannot discuss practically any issue -- education or whatever, health, services -- unless you address the problem of population.

But it is unfortunate that up to now we still have to move and translate the commitment to population, to the solution of population problem in terms of pesos and centavos because the budget does not reflect that yet. There can be a commitment that is spoken but that is not reflected in terms of more resources going to the question of population. So that is where we want to move forward, and without creating a head-on crash with the oppositions of the so-called pro-life groups.

Indonesian participant: May I know the role of women in your country on participation in developing family planning and development activities. I would like to compare with ours in Indonesia.

Sen. Mercado: Well, I have no data at my fingertips to be able to give you a complete picture of the role of women in the drafting of population policy. I think it is enough for me to say that women are fully represented in government in our country, whether it is in the legislature, in its two houses, the House of Representatives and the Senate to which I belong. Or even in the executive, as you all know, our chief executive is the first woman president in the Philippines. But that does not also negate the fact that women in our country like in all developing countries face serious problems. There is still a cultural problem of passing on the responsibility of family planning to the women, and that the men still have the cultural attitude that it is women's responsibility and men do not take that much part in it. Even in terms of voluntary sterilization, and I am speaking about voluntary sterilization, there are more recipients, there are more of those who accept that tubal ligation than dissection. And this is also cultural. I think there is a lack of understanding of the nature of operation. A lack of understanding of the fact that it is a lot simpler, and the dangers are less. But I guess this would require education

on the part of our people.

Indonesian participant: We know already that your number one in the Philippines is a woman, its influence in activities of women roles in your country, I mean the claim number one in your country.

Sen. Mercado: To my mind, I do not have any empirical data to back up this particular point. It is so difficult to make Asian realization, you know before I became a politician I used to be a professor and a television host, so I am not inclined to just make a sweeping generalization. However, I would say that my impression, and this is a personal impression, is that having a woman president has helped to define to a certain extent the other roles women can play in the society. Although, as I said it is not without criticism because the political situation in our country is more freewheeling, if I may describe it in comparison with others.

Mr. Pant from Nepal: I have one question for the host country, that means Indonesia. Actually the question is sort of a further knowledge I want to have. I have found in Indonesia there is Ministry of Population and Environment. Then again I have found there is National Family Planning Coordination Board. Population is a sort of a multi-dimensional problem. What I am interested in knowing is how can one ministry coordinate the works of other ministry? This is one question.

And similarly I have found another ministry by the name of Ministry of Transmigration. Assuming that migration is part of population problem, if there are two ministries dealing with the population problem, I say there will be one billion dollar question addressed to myself because of my ignorance, and the billion dollar question is who will coordinate the coordinators. Thank you.

Indonesian participant: Yes. Thank you. First of all, we have two types of ministries, the line ministries and then what we call ministry of state. Ministry of State is concerned particularly in formulating policies together with the line ministry. But the concern with problems or issues that cross all the sector. In environment and population, it is not actually the sole area of only one ministry. Population concerns housing, concerns education, concerns all sorts of things.

Similarly with the environment. Environment touches Ministry of Culture, Ministry of Forestry, Ministry of Public

Works and so forth. So if you have a line ministry only for environment, that means that others will leave the job to the one. So the state ministry is only coordinating the policies. We sit together and what is the best inter-sectoral policies.

Now about transmigration, transmigration has a specific program. That is the moving of population from the densely populated area to the less dense populated area in order to push regional department. So it is not concerned with migration as such. Migration, spontaneous migration, that is monitored by the Ministry of Population and Environment. But the Ministry of Transmigration has the specific job of making this movement, and to plan for the movement. So for instance, when we talk about the moving almost two million families here from Java to another island, not only from Java but from several places, that means that you have very enormous logistical problem. You have to open areas, and so forth and so on. And that is why we need a separate ministry for that.

Ms. Osman from Malaysia: I need a clarification. The women in Indonesia are free to decide the work, right? You said that they have to marry at the age of 21? Sixteen? I am not so worried about them getting married but what I wanted to ask you is, you said "She will be free, of course, at still productive age of 41, and she will return to the labor market." In other words, she will give birth, she may make two, three, four children, but she is also at the same time can take leave. Is that right? From where she works.

Indonesian participant: We are talking about a woman who wants to concentrate on raising the children while she raises children. So, there are women who stop working when she gets married. So, in the future when we have this delay of marriage. It is not a law but we encourage the delay of marriage as Dr. Haryono yesterday mentioned. So, we see in the future that people get married later and later but is woman who, for instance, wants to resign from the job just to take care of the family, for instance, then this woman will come back after 20 years or so. She comes back to the market, and she is still productive, she is strong and healthy.

Ms. Osman: In other words you can reemploy?

Indonesian participant: Yes.

Ms. Osman: But she will not go back to the same job. Is that right?

Indonesian participant: If she resigns, somebody else will take up the job.

Ms. Osman: This is not a policy.

Indonesian participant: No. Not a policy. This is a trend which is seen from existing...

Ms. Osman: Thank you.

Mr. Ali from Malaysia: Since before the population development, we called this family planning. Teenage women has planned seven children. But now, two children. After children, they have time. They go to the job. So therefore, the job is coming from two sides -- from the young, and from the old.

Mrs. Sutopo from Indonesia: I want to make a more clear clarification about women in Indonesia. I think what doctor means is that after she has, not resigned, but takes absence or leave from her job, would she be able to take up her position again. what I can tell is that she may take absence or leave with or without the consent of the party, from her position or her job. But of course, it is within a certain time. After that, she is obliged to continue and take up her old position again. So, I think we have already stated or given this information at the Asian Forum in New Delhi. Thank you.

Indonesian participant: Mr. Chairman. I would like to direct my question to Thailand. This is a very short question but I do not know, it might take a long answer. I am interested to know the development of public health care system through community participation in Thailand because I am very much impressed. Thailand has been successful in many things. So how does it operate? What is its mechanism? Because it seems that although Thailand is now they have to reduce the population, but I think they can get more if they want to. But anyway, the primary health care system, I would like to know how it operates.

Sen. Ratanakorn: For primary health care programs, the need at first is to train resource persons, especially doctors, nurses, social workers and community leaders. And secondly, we should have volunteers, health volunteers in the rural areas. And the third is public education. And again, combine force of Ministry of Interior, Ministry of Health, and Ministry of Education and since Thailand is an agricultural country, we also need the coordination of Ministry of

Agriculture as well. By this combined forces, and with the division into small areas, small committees, we send out health workers to supervise the program. So, in this direction. I think, in short, we should have resource person. And second, we should organize regional activities. And third, what we need is public cooperation. That means volunteers, health volunteers and other committee leaders. Thank you.

Dr. Mandang from Indonesia: Thank you Mr. Chairperson. To my friend Fred Gerbic of New Zealand. I am interested in the sheer demographic transitions occurring in New Zealand. Non-Maori, Maori and Pacific Island. Maori has the low fertility, and Pacific Island Polynesians have high fertility. Could you give me a reason why difference like that.

Mr. Gerbic: Yes. As far as the Pacific Island people are concerned, I referred to Western Samoans, Tongans in the mind because they have the largest Polynesian grouping in New Zealand. The general of a younger generation are probably more family-oriented. They have high fertility rate in New Zealand. Maoris probably have been established in New Zealand for so long, that they are becoming a bit like Pakeha, the European, and they are drawing away from larger families as compared with the past. I would say this is probably a more recent development than one of long standing. But that is married people getting more educated, they seek more things from life and they restrain their family growth, a bit like the European in New Zealand are becoming more. And the Maoris indeed they formed a 10% of the New Zealand population, but very few of them would be full-blooded Maoris. They have assimilated into the European community in New Zealand. And the force retaining very strongly their culture are developing more the European way.

Dr. Mandang: For instance, education are economic liberal of these three democratic...

Mr. Gerbic: Yes. I think there is a difference, there is no difference in approach to education, the availability of education. I think there is fact that in proportion to their population, the Maori probably is not as well-educated as the Pakeha European in New Zealand. The Polynesians, because they are relatively new introduction into New Zealand, they are generally far less educated. They form more of the unskilled employment positions in New Zealand. But I can add that both the Maori and the Polynesian are growing away from that. Particularly the Polynesians as they get more established in New Zealand, they go for the traditional values and have taken up education very well.

Indonesian participant: I would like to ask my friend from New Zealand. How much is the birth rate of the non-Maori? And the Maori and the Polynesian?

Mr. Gerbic: I can not give you those close details, I am sorry. I have not got those available to me. But Polynesians, their birth rate is very high.

Indonesian participant: How many million, the Maori and the non-Maori? Of 3.3 million total people.

Mr. Gerbic: Ten percent of the New Zealand population is Maori. Polynesians are growing, probably up to 5%. There is a steady migration into New Zealand from Samoa, we have acquired a system on immigration. And a family reunification brings more people from Tonga and then we have the Cook Islands that have free entry in New Zealand.

Indonesian participant: My question is also for New Zealand. I would like to know this new immigration policy which will see a net inflow of 10,000 people into New Zealand annually. what I would like to know is that is there any condition, that 10,000 target, can it be anybody because normally for those who would like to migrate are the people who would like to have better life, better opportunity. But we see that some other country, they are looking for good people. Normally, good people means that they are educated in every sense whereas only good people they can have good life in that particular country. So, as far as New Zealand is concerned, what is the condition to have this 10,000 inflow of people into New Zealand annually.

Mr. Gerbic: Certainly I am very happy to answer that. First of all, New Zealand does not discriminate between nations in respect to immigration to New Zealand. We have a common policy which applies to every country in the world. Previously, our immigration policy was based on a traditional source and directed more at British probably than anywhere else. But there is a policy now which applies equally to everybody. The change in New Zealand's immigration policy which I briefly referred to is aimed to bring more skilled and professional people into New Zealand. We have an ongoing commitment to South Pacific, Western Samoa, Tongans as I have already said, those people are generally unskilled. Every nation has a need to develop that skill base. Yet New Zealand is at the bottom end of the world, they would like to take off for Australia or Europe and other places of opportunity. So, we lose quite a number of skilled and young professional people to other countries so naturally we have got to replace them. The new policy will be based on

skill and qualification and certainly non-discriminatory. We are looking toward a net inflow of about 10,000 people a year without being firm on that figure. It is a guide and it is a thing that is subject to review from time to time.

Indonesian participant: But if you take all the skilled workers, the professional people will not leave to the developed countries anyway.

Mr. Gerbic: Well, of course we train a lot of people from developing countries and New Zealand as well, and they generally go back to their countries of origin after spending some time at open universities, New Zealand universities and other schools of education. New Zealand is a small country and the intake of skilled and professional peoples from the world at large, from Yugoslavia to Maori origins, is an example. So I do not think there will be any draw-off from any country that will be to that country's detriment.

Indonesian participant: Because I raised this question, Malaysia has an experience where quite a number of skilled and wealthy people migrated to Australia. We see that it does not happen, leave poor people behind. I hope New Zealand does not follow the same...

Mr. Gerbic: As a matter of fact, Malaysia is one of the greater recipients of New Zealand's education policy, and a large number of student we have coming from Malaysia and we are pleased to receive them. And educate them, and send them back for the betterment of Malaysia.

Mr. Chairperson Thapa: Parliamentarians and friends. I think we have completed the discussion. So thank you for giving me the opportunity to chair this meeting. I guess we have learned many things. We have collected a lot of ideas into our mind. We go into our country I think we try. Our efforts is to yet do a lot of things in our country. You know, Nepal is small, and concurrently is striving for peace, harmony and tranquility. Nepal is a country where Buddha was born. So automatically we can feel how Nepalese people are peace loving. You know, His Majesty the King Birendra Sir, He has put one proposal that we call "Join of Peace." And I think, I am sure most of the parliamentarians who represent their countries, they have accepted our proposals. So I am really glad and I want again to congratulate these parliamentarian friends who are helping Nepal. So our stay in Indonesia will be very fruitful and when we go to our country, we will get a lot of knowledge, lot of ideas, lot of friends, and ultimately we hope we will do something for human beings. Thank you very much.

SESSION V

SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT AND  
FUTURE POPULATION POLICY

Friday, March 23, 1990

Chairperson: Taheri Noor

Keynote Address

The Amsterdam Declaration  
and  
Demographic Transition in Asia  
By  
Dr. Toshio Kuroda

Chairperson Taheri Noor. I will briefly discuss about the meaning of the Amsterdam Declaration, and some relation with demographic transition in Asia.

The 1980s were a very unfortunate decade for people in the world, characterized by three things. They are increasing economic disparity between developed regions and the Third World, higher rate of world population growth than expected to be, and last one is global environmental degradation.

For the developing countries, the eighties were a time of accumulating difficulties. Their huge debt to industrial countries, resulted in more amount of interest and principal payment than loan given by industrial countries since 1984. At this point, resources started to move into industrial countries from developing countries, namely backward torrent.

Export earning collapsed under them. In this way, in 1989, poverty in developing regions increased dramatically in sub-Saharan Africa and Latin America, as well as in parts of Asia. Number of people living in so-called absolute poverty was 1.2 billion in 1989. In my paper, Table 1 shows some estimates by the Worldwatch Institute based on the World Bank studies. It should be noted that the global poverty rate seems not only to have stopped falling, but to have risen, despite substantial reductions in the number of impoverished in the two most populous countries on earth, China and India.

On the other hand, on the contrary, for industrial nations, the decade was a time of resurgence and recovery after the economic recession of the seventies.

The eighties witnessed widening income disparity between the developed and the developing, through process of the rich getting richer and the poor getting poorer. Why does poverty continue to spread and the gap between developed and developing countries tends to widen in an age incomparably more prosperous than any period in the history of human kind? There is not yet any decisive theory nor panacea to

solve the problem. However, it is widely recognized that at least population - especially rapid population increase in developing countries - is one of the major factor contributing to worsening situation, impeding modernization there.

Second point characterizing the eighties is high rate of population growth. Remarkable progress has been made in slowing the rate of population growth since 1970 in particular in Asia. But the decline has been so gradual that the annual increment growth has become larger each year. During the eighties, world population increased by 842 million. An average of 84 million a year.

During the next 10 years it is projected to grow by 959 million, nearly 1 billion, the largest increment ever for a single decade. That can be seen on Table 2. As the annual excess of births over deaths still continues to widen. It indicates that the date of population to be stationary is pushed ever further into the future.

United Nations' most recent population estimates and projections shows that projected population in the world for 2000 and 2025 made just a few years ago were underestimated. These underestimations are mostly related with Asia. United Nations' projections suggest that more effective and efficient policy for population control is urgently needed.

Third point featuring the eighties was environmental deterioration issue. Environmental issue has already been serious locally and nationally. However, it was just a few years before the end of the eighties that environmental deterioration has become serious global concern through global warning.

International Forum on Population in the Twenty-First Century organized by UNFPA in co-operation with the Government of the Netherlands was held at Amsterdam, 6-9 November last year, and also the Amsterdam Declaration was adopted.

This Forum and Amsterdam Declaration was very good timing. There are three reasons. One is that 1989 is just mid point between International Conference on Population held at Mexico in 1984 and next global meeting on population to be convened in 1994. Secondly, the Forum could take into account the extraordinary eighties characterized by expanding global gap between North and South, increasing number of people in the world threatening balance between population and resources, and critical environmental issue of global warning.

They are critical global issues with which must be urgently tackled by appropriate international organization such as UNFPA.

The primary purpose of the Forum was to discuss the most important population issues of the 1990s and beyond, based on the findings of the Fund's review and assessment exercise of their past activities in the field of the population and also by taking into account major newly emerging issues. The Amsterdam Declaration resulting from successful discussion on population and related issues in the 1990s and the Twenty-First Century emphasizes the urgency and our responsibilities towards future generations, where the actions and decisions of one generation determine the well-being and quality of life of future generations.

A basic feature of the Declaration is the emphasis on quality of human life, but not necessarily on quantity. However, it does not mean that the quantity is not important. On the contrary, this choice for quality necessarily and naturally induce people to take action for controlling of quantity.

Based on selected figures of world population increase, unequal population situation in terms of regions, countries, age groups and rural and urban areas, and their implication, the Declaration said, "it is a time for concerted action. The triad of population growth end distribution, environmental degradation and pervasive poverty threatens us and our planet as never before."

Asia is a huge region in the world. Asian population is about 3.3 billion, sharing approximately 60% of the world population in 1990. Asia is also noticeable in the sense that it is composed of quite diversity of ethnicity, culture, social and economic development.

However, Asia as a whole has well advanced in the field of population. Population control policy has been widely adopted by nearly all countries and remarkable achievement of fertility reduction has been realized.

Japan was a country outside of European cultural sphere which achieved demographic transition process in much shorter period than that of Western countries in the past. Japan's experience of successful demographic transition was quickly followed by NIEs which have already completed demographic transition coupled with remarkable economic growth. ASEAN countries are also making progress in demographic transition, succeeding NIEs.

We recognize that there are still several countries lagging behind NIEs and ASEAN countries in terms of stage of demographic transition, where economic and social development are also backward.

Such diversity, I think, in demographic transition as well as in social, economic, and political conditions among countries may be competitive and also encouraging each other and contributing to progress and prosperity through cooperation and mutual assistance among countries in this region.

Whether population problems in the world can be solved or not, depends greatly on the success of Asian countries. In this sense, responsibility of Asia is very great. Intensification of international cooperation in the sphere of population activities, especially related and adopted to the specific conditions, can accelerate demographic transition and modernization in Asia, which in turn encourage other developing regions and promote demographic transition and contribute to the improvement of quality of life.

Detailed suggestions and recommendation shown in the Amsterdam Declaration could be both wise and valuable in guiding policies in the field of populations in the decades to come.

Finally, I will just show the data on demographic transition in Asia. I put in 31 countries. How each country, how they face the development process must be interesting for all of you. Thank you very much.

Chairperson Taheri Noor: Distinguished participants, ladies and gentlemen. We have just heard the keynote on the Amsterdam Declaration from Dr. Toshio Kuroda. As we have learned just now, this declaration entrusted us with on our hands a responsibility of better life for future generations. The responsibility to do more and dealing more with population problems which are closely linked with those of natural resources and environment which are important part of overall development. Also toward the uplifting of the quality of life for women and men of tomorrow. As His Excellency President Soeharto stated in his remarks yesterday, we have responsibility for the life of this generation and the generation after us, for which we have to work on together hand in hand and side by side. The Indonesian delegation has an appeal to put forward to this distinguished meeting which I would like to read out for the honorary delegation to decide upon later. I would like to invite the delegation from Indonesia to read this appeal. Thank you.

Indonesian participant: Thank you very much Mr. Chairperson. Honorable ladies and gentlemen. I am now sitting here for the second time, but I think it is very important this afternoon because I must propose a draft appeal to be concentrated by this distinguished meeting. After the wide range of deliberation and discussion on all important subjects, developed by the distinguished delegates from various Asian countries including the experiences brought forward by countries reports from which we can learn and make improvement in further implementation for actions to be done, and not to forget the most important remarks stated by His Excellency the President of the Republic of Indonesia. The speaker of the House of Representatives Mr. Bapak Subud, and the State Minister of Population and Environment, His Excellency Professor Dr. Emil Salim. And here we propose a draft appeal to be considered for this meeting as follows.

JAKARTA APPEAL  
AN APPEAL TO NATIONS AND GOVERNMENTS  
issued by  
The Sixth Asian Parliamentarians Meeting  
on Population and Development  
23 March 1990, Jakarta,  
Indonesia

AWARE that upon entering the decade of the 90s the world is burdened with problems which acquired critical dimensions in the past decade of the 80s,

FURTHER AWARE that those problems center upon:

1. a higher rate of world population growth than anticipated earlier,
2. the deterioration of the global environment at an unprecedented rate, and
3. the increasing economic disparities between the advance, industrialized regions and the regions still struggling to achieve sustained and sustainable development.

COGNIZANT of the vital and interdependent relations between population, environment and development which together constitute major issue of our times.

RECOGNIZING the efforts of governments and of international organizations dealing with the problem and which have led to the formulation of the Amsterdam Declaration, a better life for future generations.

FURTHER RECOGNIZING that a new level of cooperation is required in today's rapidly changing international situation in dealing with the issues of population, development and environment which must be addressed with persistence and perseverance while giving due respect to human rights and national sovereignty.

CONSIDERING the number of experiences and information on population and environment as an integral part of the overall development process put forward during this meeting by the participants of the Sixth Asian Parliamentarians Population and Development Meeting in Jakarta, 22-23 March 1990,

THEREFORE,

DEEPLY CONCERNED with the plight of untold millions and the

state of the environment today and in the future, we, the participants of The Sixth Asian Parliamentarians Meeting on Population and Development, issue the following appeal:

1. That The Amsterdam Declaration be endorsed,
2. That the countries of Asia region endeavor to implement the provisions and recommendations of The Amsterdam Declaration, in the context of their national priorities and needs,
3. That the countries of Asia region increase their mutual cooperation in the field of population, environment and development, commensurate with their respective capabilities and experiences,
4. That the countries of Asia increase their attention to the crucial importance of population trends for a better quality of life in future generations by improving policies and action provisioned and supported by Parliaments, Governments and through popular participation unto the grass root level in accordance with the condition of each country respectively,
5. That all countries, especially the advanced and industrialized assume a heightened share in the common efforts in the fields of population and environment and help facilitate the development efforts of the developing countries.

DONE AND ADOPTED BY ACCLAMATION in Jakarta, Indonesia, on March 23, 1990

## ROUND TABLE DISCUSSION

Mr. Ito: My name is Ito from Japan. On behalf of the Japanese Delegation, I would like to speak to endorse the Jakarta Appeal. I believe that the contents of the Jakarta Appeal is in line with the Amsterdam Declaration dealing with the increase of population and deterioration of the global environment. And trying to address the increasing gap between the regions, each of which are urgent and essential problems before us. I would like to support the adoption of this Jakarta Appeal because each of the issues enumerated in the Appeal can be issues put on the agenda of APDA because each of them have to be resolved. And by adopting this appeal, it gives APDA a new sense of responsibility and the list of issues that we concretely work for. I would like to endorse very strongly the Jakarta appeal. Thank you.

Mr. Chairperson: I do not know whether all of the participants understand what we have said already but anyhow I feel the spirit of what you said already that you support the Appeal, the Jakarta Appeal said by our head of the delegation of Indonesia. Is that true? Thank you.

Actually, I just want to say that what we are going to do is just to have the command and correction, or if there is any, critics of the Appeal. I just want to say to all of you. But before proceeding with the problem, I just want to request for hearing the comment of the very important and dominant director of a very important international body dealing in population, environment and development. There are two participants from international organizations, I did not hear their voices since yesterday. Mr. V.T. Palan from IPPF. Thank you.

Mr. Palan: Thank you Mr. Chairperson. First of all, let me say thank you very much for giving us the opportunity to be here with you. And as some of you know, Amsterdam Declaration came about late last year in November. The Declaration, as all of you who have read it must know, it covers all aspects of population. We are glad that it covers all aspects of population. It does not limit itself only to family planning services per se. We are very glad to note that this issue has been taken in the full context of how to improve. As we represent the non-governmental organization internationally through our memberships at the national level...

I suspect Mr. Chairperson that while the Declaration itself

I think is very laudable, the best of it will be in how much we are able to internalize the recommendation. I would like to also put my appeal that this recommendation be considered in its totality in each of the countries and as His Excellency the speaker said yesterday, consider how it can be implemented through a tripod-type participation of the parliamentarians group, the governmental sector, and most importantly, the non-governmental sector. Thank you very much for the opportunity.

Mr. Chairperson: Thank you Mr. Palan. Now I would like to request Mr. Jyoti Shankar Singh, Director of IERD, UNFPA. The floor is for you.

Mr. Singh: Mr. Chairman. Thank you very much for giving me this opportunity to say a few words concerning the draft view that is in front of the meeting today. I was, as those who participated in Amsterdam know, the secretary of the conference, and I spent several months last year preparing for the conference and actually organizing the conference in November of 1989.

The declaration that was adopted by the conference, as my colleague from IPPF has already pointed out, is a very comprehensive document. It brings the review of the population situation up to date in the context of its relationship with other developmental and environmental issues. And then it proposes a number of specific targets and objectives for countries around the world to incorporate in their own national plans and strategies, obviously taking fully into account their own particular needs and requirements.

Obviously, such a declaration will have meaning only if ultimately its implementation is undertaken at the national level. And as I said at the opening session, Asia is, with all its problems, is probably the most advanced region in terms of population policy formulation and implementation, and action by the Asian parliamentarians endorsing the declaration, encouraging the governments, the parliamentarians themselves and the non-governmental organization to undertake effective action at the national level towards the implementation of the declaration will certainly give a great stimulus to further implementation of the declaration in other parts of the world. I fully endorse the proposal before you, and urge in my personal capacity its adoption by you. Thank you very much.

Mr. Chairperson: Thank you Director Singh. Now, we come back to the floor and I request some or, if possible, all of you to get his comment or suggestion. And I will start with

India? Thailand? This floor is yours professor.

Sen. Ratanakorn: Please turn to second page, number 5. I was invited to the First World Environmental Legislator Forum in Tokyo in November last year. The same declaration, as we call the Tokyo Declaration on Environment. But we had one word in line 3, started from line 2, "in the common efforts in the field of population and environment." There was another word in the Tokyo Declaration, "in the field of population resources and environment." Why? Because a lot of resources was drawn by advanced countries. So this is just for consideration.

Mr. Chairperson: I do not know if the delegation will accept your suggestion. I will put it to the Indonesian delegation.

Indonesian participant: Thank you very much Mr. Chairperson. I think it is a good idea and I will accommodate your expression. Thank you very much.

Mr. Chairperson: India? Do you have any comment or any suggestion? If you have please.

Mr. Mittal: Thank you Mr. Chairperson for giving me the floor. The Amsterdam Declaration is very comprehensive as Mr. Singh has said. We do not need to go into it. All I would recommend, the appeal that goes from here must stimulate our national groups in the Asian region to take it up in their own parliaments. And try to bring enough pressure on their governments through the form of parliamentary association so that the parliament and the government could take it very seriously and implement the same in right earnest.

I do not think it requires more elucidation except that we can motivate our colleagues in the parliament and also the volunteer agencies, organizations interested in population-related matters to take it up, and they can build up enough pressure through their solidarity meetings to very successfully pressurize their governments to implement it. And we should take it up in a manner in our parliaments, our national parliament, so that government could come out with specific plans for implementation. Not merely saying that they will take it up, they will consider it as they usually do. They must specifically come out with plans of implementation and give assurances on the floor of parliament. Only then, the implementation part in right earnest will start. This forum can take it up as one of the major activities, as we did in respect of two billion by creating that atmos-

phere, environment conducive to creating the awakening and awareness on the issue we can take it up and write on this all over again, in our national parliament, and our groups can certainly be very helpful.

I fully endorse the appeal and I would suggest that the appeal should not remain an appeal. It should be turned into some kind of concrete plan of action. As a guideline for our national forums in various parliaments in this region, and let us see what groups of parliamentarians in a country can achieve. You shall certainly like to oversee that all of the groups at the Asian Forum will like to write to the members in each country where we have formal groups functioning, formal or informal, groups functioning, whether they are regular members or associate members to see that some action is taken by them. Thank you very much.

Mr. Chairperson: Thank you. Honorable Mittal. Your suggestion is very comprehensive and I would like to give the chance to the floor, especially to the members of the delegation of Indonesia to answer or make any comment. No comment? So we will proceed with the others if there is still any. And I would like to request the person from Malaysia to give his comment. Thank you.

Mr. Ali: Thank you Mr. Chairperson. As far as the mission is concerned, we endorse strongly the Jakarta Appeal, but just a few opinions or remarks. Jakarta Appeal is attached with the Amsterdam Declaration and the most important issue is looking for better life for the future generation. But in the Amsterdam Declaration, demographic transition issue according to the paper stated very clearly that the increasing economic disparity between developed regions and the third world, higher rate of world population growth than expected to be and global environmental degradation. The huge debt to industrial countries is resulting in more amount of interest and principal payment than loan given by industrial countries since '84. Therefore, at this point, resources started to move into industrial countries from developing countries, namely backward torrent.

I quote this because there seems to be, in the third world countries particularly, sometimes we are very apologetic to ourselves. We console the problem to ourselves by saying that by having a better life for the future generation in order to concentrate more on them. How to reduce population etc. Whereas the message should be firmly stronger than this towards the industrial countries, because according to this Amsterdam Declaration, it is clearly stated that, "the problem mainly lies with the developing countries."

Therefore, I do not intend to add more, but according to this Jakarta Appeal, the last page number 5, stated that, "All countries, especially the advanced and industrialized assume a heightened share in the common efforts." I do not know, I would like to add that there should be more humanitarian in terms of cooperating among the third world countries and the industrialized countries. If not, we are nowhere. We can solve, we can voice in our parliament as far as our government is concerned. But we can speak up to ourselves within our means, but what about other countries? For years, for generations we have come across this type of appeal, this type of declaration through many forums, partly directed to the Western countries, I mean, sorry, to put it more clearly. So I would like to have the declaration of this Jakarta Appeal on this matter to be more firm or more strong so that our voice of third world countries can be heard positively in the future. Thank you.

Mr. Chairperson: Thank you. We will now proceed to the delegation of People's Republic of China if you have any comment.

Mr. Hu Keshi: (Supported the appeal but recording of his statement is not clear due to the condition of machine.)

Mr. Chairperson: I now come back to the floor. If there is still any comment from any delegation would you please... How about Nepal? Do you have any? Philippines?

Sen. Mercado: Well, I do not have anything else to say Mr. Chairperson but wish to express my support for this appeal. Thank you very much.

Mr. Chairperson: Sri Lanka, the floor is yours.

Mr. Fernando: In the course of our deliberations during yesterday and today, most of the speakers highlighted the problem of aging. And while endorsing the Jakarta Declaration together with amendment by India, I wish that the message to look after the elderly be also included in the declaration if that is possible.

Mr. Chairperson: Yes. Thank you. Talking about aging, I think it has been stipulated in No.3. On the field of population. What do you mean by population here is just baby, the adult and also the old people. If you agree with that. Thank you.

New Zealand, do you have any comment? Thank you New Zealand. Still any? You do not worry if I on this very beau-

tiful moment to say that the Jakarta Appeal is accepted by all of us?

- Applauded by all participants -

As we come to the close of the last session of this meeting today, permit me to convey my heartfelt thanks to you all, the distinguished participants of the Sixth Asian Parliamentarians' Meeting on Population and Development, for your active participation in making the discussion and deliberations successful.

As policy makers and legislators, we have come to the conclusion of this meeting that the concern for the plight of the millions and the state of the environment today and in the future, lies in our hands to deal with. So that we, as stated by Professor Dr. Emil Salim, all in the privileged position to pioneer new approaches and new policies to recommend steps and measures in national and international actions. This means that heavy lies upon all of us. With the adoption of the Jakarta Appeal, the Sixth Asian Parliamentarians Meeting on Population and Development today, March 23, 1990, I would like to close this session and I will transfer back my job as the chairperson of the meeting's last session. Thank you.

Thank you very much, Mr. Chairperson. Excellencies, honorable parliamentarians, ladies and gentlemen. We are now on the next session which is the group session. We would like to invite Excellency Emil Salim and Honorable Takashi Sato to be seated in their seats. Thank you.

CLOSING SESSION

Friday, March 23, 1990

Closing Remarks  
By  
Hon. Takashi Sato  
Member of the House of Representatives

Your excellency. Mr. Chairman. My colleagues. Ladies and gentlemen. As we are about to close this Sixth Asian Parliamentarians Meeting on Population and Development, I have just to thank all those concerned for their contribution to making this two day conference a great success. On behalf of the organizers, I would like to express here my sincere appreciation to your part in making this conference a great success. I would like to take this opportunity to thank Dr. Kharis Suhud, the speaker of DPR, and His Excellency Professor Emil Salim, the Chairperson of Indonesian Population and Development Forum, and Dr. Haryono Suyono, the Chairman of BKKBN, for their commitment and for their tremendous efforts in making this a great success. Because of their commitment and their passion and heartwarming hospitality, we were able to enjoy not just our stay here, but the great success of this meeting.

I have been very much inspired by my visit this time to Indonesia. The first, the philosophy of His Excellency, Mr. Soeharto, the President of the Republic. And secondly, that the Asian Forum of Parliamentarians have been able to adopt by consensus the Declaration of Amsterdam before all the other parliamentary groups in different parts of the world. I was inspired, as I said, by President Soeharto, because he said that the solution to the problems of population, development and environment was a calling from the heaven given to us politicians and parliamentarians. The solution of parliamentarians, environment and development is a national development issue. It must be part and parcel of improving the quality of life of the national people. To improve the quality of life is a social responsibility, he said. I cannot agree more. He said, "Small family is a happy family." I have always said that human happiness, mankind's happiness begins with a happiness in a family. I was very much encouraged and I was most honored that the President of the Republic shares the same thought and philosophy.

I am proud that the Parliamentarians Meeting has adopted "Jakarta Appeal" in supporting the Amsterdam Declaration in consensus. As you know, the Amsterdam Declaration appeals that when the world population is growing at a much faster rate than expected and when the world's global environment is deteriorating, when there is regional discrepancy in

economy expanding, we must work towards improving the life of the second generation, next generation. The world is undergoing tremendous changes, seeking new order and new cooperation. When the international situation undergoes change, we must address the perpetual problem of population with courage and wisdom. In other words, we must address the problems of population, development and environment with courage and wisdom, while respecting human rights and sovereignty of nations. Because this is the noble mission given to us, we must continue to work towards this.

In October of this year, we will be having the Third Asian Forum General Assembly. I believe we can confidently invite ourselves to enjoy the generous hospitality of our charming host Dr. Prasop. I hope we can all meet each other this autumn in Bangkok. In concluding, I would like to thank the host and pray for the prosperity and health of Indonesia and to all your nations and your happiness of everyone who gathered here. Thank you so much.

Closing Remarks  
By  
H.E. Emil Salim  
Chairman, Indonesian Forum on  
Population and Environment

Ladies and gentlemen. Dear friends. As we are nearing the end of our conference today, I was asking myself, altogether what we have achieved at this conference.

First, I would like to draw your attention to the fact that we have created understanding and appreciation for one another. And through this understanding, we have reached a consensus called the Jakarta Appeal. To achieve this understanding, ladies and gentlemen, is very important because those attending this conference are parliamentarians, are politicians. And as politicians, we have party discipline, the politics that is determined by our headquarters, by our leaders. We are committed to our constituencies who have elected us. As such, we may have a different opinion, each of us. Each of us may have a different outlook towards the problems of development, of politics in general. And yet, in spite of the differences, in spite of our different outlook coming from different political parties, yet we were able to come together to a kind of consensus.

And also important, this is not only a consensus between parliamentarians, politician, but a consensus between Asian parliamentarians. And Asia consists of countries which are highly developed, like Japan, like New Zealand, but also countries which are less developed like Indonesia and so on. So we are Asian parliamentarians but with different economic background. Different economic strength, different income per capita. So the reason to be not having a common view, the rationale of having difference of opinion is very strong. The political background is different, as well as the country, the nature of stage of development of our country is different.

In spite of all this difference, we are yet able to be united and came to understanding and having agreement and consensus on the Jakarta Appeal. How is this possible? Why is it possible that in spite of all this differences, we still are able to reach the consensus and have a common outlook that was the problem that we face. The reason I feel, ladies and gentlemen, is the fact that we are dealing with the universal problem. The problem of population and development. This problem is getting more and more out of hand for all of us.

In 1900, the total population was... Almost three times. But the increase of three times of population has led to an increase of economic growth by 20 times. So the economic growth, in 1990 as compared with 1900 is 20 times as large as the 1900 economic growth. And that economic growth is made possible through the contribution of energy which has grown 30 times, and industrial growth which has risen by 50 times. So population increase of three times has led to increase of economic growth of 20, energy growth of 30 and industrial growth of 50 times.

That was the past. If we look now to the future, we are now 5.2 billion people, and by the mid next century, we may reach the 10 billion people. So the increase is two times. If we increase by two times, what will happen to economic growth? Does it also need to be increased by 13 times? Should energy also be increased by another 20 times? And what about industrial growth? If all these happen, and we raise energy use, we raise industrial growth, we raise economic growth, what will happen with the environment of the universe? What will happen with our global environment?

These are the challenges. These are the problems that unite us. This is the universal problem. Population hooked up with development that has united us and allowing us to come to a consensus called the Jakarta Appeal.

It is clear, ladies and gentlemen, that population and development are interwoven, and it is clear also that this interrelationship between population and development serve as the unified and integrating factor in our deliberation in this meeting. We may have different political background, we may come from different countries. And yet, we are still united in this conference. Because of that, it is my hope that the Asian population development, which have unified us in this meeting will remain an unifying force for all of us in the future. I hope we all may intensify our efforts to solve the problems of population and development to work out, to not stop at the Jakarta Appeal, but move on to the substance of this and try to come to grips with the major issue of how to tackle the problem of population and development in our respective countries as well as in the Asian Forum.

Finally, I hope that this meeting has ignited a new spirit. Let us call it a Jakarta Spirit that is revealed in the Jakarta Appeal that may inspire all of us to further meet the challenges of population and development in the future. With this hope, may I hear it officially closed the Sixth Parliamentarians Meeting on Population and Development.

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