

Smt. Indira Gandhi
 Prime Minister of India
 New Delhi, India

Madam

Dear Prime Minister, Gandhi:

Overpopulation is India's number one national problem today. Even if India Government's present family planning program succeeds hundred per cent India's population will increase by 100 to 120 million by 1980 from the present level of 550 million. Looking from a different angle, India will have about 150 million children below the age of ten in 1980 which is about three quarters of the whole population of United States of America today. This alarming increase in our population with an age structure in which a very large percentage are children below ten will have catastrophic results for our nation and our people. To avoid such a catastrophe for our nation and our people we request:

(1) Top priority be accorded to population control program in India by our government.

(2) Our present family planning program be forthwith converted into a vigorous population control policy. Within a year's time the government should determine what should be the optimum number of people compatible with our resources, size of our country and the minimum standard of living we should achieve for every Indian citizen. Our population control policy should be vigorous enough to achieve stabilization of population at this optimum level by the end of this century. It should be mentioned that the optimum number of population for our country is in any case below the present level of 550 million if we aim to guarantee good food, good clothes, decent house, a comprehensive health program and education for every citizen of India.

(3) To make stabilization of population possible in our nation we request:

(a) Creation of a national voluntary organization on an All India basis of people from every walk of life, especially students, who are committed to population control program.

(b) Introduction of "Population Control in India" as a subject in the curriculum in schools and colleges.

(c) Raising the marriageable age of women to 18 and men to 21.

(d) The formation of a separate ministry for population control in the Central Government with a minister of cabinet rank in charge of the ministry.

(e) The formation of a similar separate ministry in every state government and departments in centrally administered territories.

(f) A uniform marriage law applicable to every citizen of India irrespective of religious affiliation so that there will be no room for complaint by any section of the people that the marriage laws of any particular religious group ^{are} having an edge over other groups in contributing to increase in population.

(g) Discontinuance of any benefit to those ~~government~~ ^{and or state government} employees of central ~~and~~ ^{or} states ~~and~~ ^{or} semigovernment organizations who will have more than two children in the future.

(h) Free supply of contraceptives through postmen all over India.

(i) Free supply of contraceptives ~~at~~ ⁱⁿ every railway station all over India through railway employees.

(j) Establishment of at least one demographic centre in every state.

(k) Increasing the production of contraceptives tenfold and initiation of a quick program to educate the use of contraceptives to people in rural areas.

(l) Use 10% of all the available time of all the radio stations in India for population control programs.

(m) Make compulsory the production of a certain percentage of the total number of films produced in India to be on population control.

(n) Make compulsory by law the utilization of a certain amount of space of every issue of every newspaper to be on popularizing the theme of stabilization of India's population.

(o) Use 5 minutes of every News Reel for programs on population control.

(p) Increasing manifold the number of documentaries produced on the theme of population control by Film Division of India.

There are more than hundred thousand Indian citizens in the USA and Canada today. We seek your advise as to how these people can contribute constructively in solving ~~in time~~ our most serious national problem today namely over-population.

Thank you.

Name and Signature

Addresses