



Background Guide

Agenda: “Deliberation on the implementation of a Nationwide Population Control Policy and its Socio-Political Implications”.

LETTER FROM THE EXECUTIVE BOARD

Dear Representatives,

I welcome you to the All India Political Parties Meet. It's my privilege to be serving as the Chairperson of the KLE Model United Nations 2025, and look forward to having you to be a part of the "KLE MUN 2025-Concordia". The purpose of the Committee is neither to influence your thinking towards a party or an ideology nor is it intended to bask in the Havoc instead of erudite opinions.

I, as the Chairperson, mainly look forward for the members of the parliament to address the in-depth nature of the "Implementation of the Nationwide Population Control Policy". I ensure to be present for you at every step, to encourage you and push your boundaries.

In the words of SY Quraishi (Former Election Commissioner)–"Fertility gaps stem from literacy gaps-Not religion. Polarizing population control distracts from real solutions".

Let these magnificent two days, be filled with the passion and fuel of MUN's at its peak with better debates, more incredible research and an even admirable element of well executed diplomacy and the prowess of lobbying displayed to its brim.

Regards,
Yours Executive Board,

YASHWANTH C R
CHAIRPERSON

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(Please refer to the background guide only as the starting point of your research)

VALID SOURCES

Government Reports (Each ministry publishes its own reports including External Affairs Ministry)

PTI, PIB

- ❖ Government Websites
- ❖ Government run News channels i.e., RSTV, LSTV, DD News
- ❖ Standing Committee Reports/ Commission Reports
- ❖ RTI Proofs
- ❖ Parliamentary Standing Committee reports
- ❖ Questions and Answers of the parliament

RULES OF PROCEDURE

ALL INDIA POLITICAL PARTIES' MEET

The committee will begin with a formal attendance of the representatives and will be followed by the Opening Statements.

Opening Statements:

The members will be delivering an opening statement at the start of the committee. The default speakers' time for this will be 60 seconds and can be extended up to 90 seconds.

After every speech, members are obligated to yield the floor back to the Executive Board.

The Executive Board will then direct the members to ask questions.

The number of questions to be asked (if any) will be decided by the Executive Board depending on the time.

The committee will then proceed in any of the two types of sessions viz. *Public Session* or the *Private Session*.

Establishing the Sessions:

These sessions can be established by proposing a motion to establish a particular session, which will be followed by a vote. The motion should be able to secure a simple majority.

Public Session

In order to discuss various sections of the agenda, a separate time frame is allotted for the members to put their views on the floor of the house.

A public session can be of 15-30 minutes but the individual speaker's time will remain 60 seconds.

Everything in a public session is in public domain and is in the presence of the media.

Private Session

Private session is of two types: Moderated and Unmoderated. Nothing from the Private Session goes on record or in the public domain.

Unmoderated:

A Representative may move for an Unmoderated Session thereby suggesting a change from formal to informal debate.

The Representative who makes this motion must suggest a length and justification for the Unmoderated Session.

The Executive Board may suggest a more appropriate session length and put it to vote or may rule the Unmoderated Session out of order without possibility of appeal.

Once the Motion has passed, the Committee will depart from the formal discussion and will carry an informal discussion without leaving the conference room.

Moderated: A moderated session will be a formal discussion which is regulated by the Executive Board.

Points:

1. Point of Personal Privilege:

- A Representative may rise to a Point of Personal Privilege if a matter impairs him/her from participating fully in council activities.
- The Executive Board persons shall try to effectively address the source of impairment.
- A Point of Personal Privilege may only interrupt a speaker if the Representative speaking is inaudible. Otherwise, the Representative rising on the Point of Personal Privilege must wait till the end of the speech to raise the Point.

2. Point of Order

- A Representative may rise to a Point of Order if he finds a factual flaw in the speech of the speaker.
- This point may not interrupt a Speaker.
- The Executive Board will rule on the validity of the point immediately.
- A Point of Order ruled dilatory by the Executive Board may not be appealed.

3. Point of Parliamentary Inquiry

- A Representative may rise to a Point of Parliamentary Inquiry requesting an explanation from the Executive Board on the Rules of Procedure.
- This point may not interrupt a Speaker.

4. Point of Information

- A Representative may rise to a Point of Information if he/she wishes to ask a question or clarification to the speaker.
- This point may not interrupt a speaker.
- This point is only valid at the time of the opening statements.

5. Right of Reply

- A Representative whose personal integrity has been impugned by another Delegate's comments may rise to a Right of Reply.
- Disagreement with the content of a Delegate's speech is not grounds for a Right of Reply.
- The Executive Board will recognize the Right of Reply at his/her discretion as well as decide on how to resolve the motion.
- This point may not interrupt a speaker but should be addressed the moment he/she has finished his/her speech.
- Should the Executive Board rule the Right of Reply out of order, his/her decision cannot be appealed.

No Representative may call for a Right of Reply on a Right of Reply.

Written Documents:

The members can prepare a press release or a memorandum.

Press Release is an official statement issued to newspapers giving information on a particular matter whereas a memorandum is a directive issued to another wing of the same party.

AGENDA: "Deliberation on the implementation of a Nationwide Population Control Policy and its Socio-Political Implications".

According to E.O. Wilson, "The raging monster upon the land is population growth. In its presence, sustainability is but a fragile theoretical concept."

Introduction:

India has recently surpassed China to become the world's most populous country. This demographic milestone reignites the perennial debate about population growth and its management. While the "population bomb" threat, as once envisioned, may have receded globally due to declining fertility rates, India's sheer numbers and internal demographic variations present unique challenges and opportunities.

Historically, India has been a pioneer in family planning, launching the world's first national family planning program in 1952. Over the decades, the approach has evolved, sometimes marked by controversial coercive measures (e.g., during the Emergency) and, more recently, by a focus on voluntary family planning, reproductive health, and women's empowerment.

Forced sterilizations in 1976-1977 led to 8.3 million procedures, triggering public backlash and electoral defeat. Legacy of voluntary programs became national norm.

The 2021–2025 State Policies of UP/Assam laws face legal challenges for violating reproductive rights and targeting marginalized groups. The objective of this deliberation is to engage in a multi-party dialogue on whether a nationwide population control policy is still necessary, what its features might be, and, most critically, to thoroughly examine its potential socio-political implications across diverse Indian states and communities.

Historical Context of Population Control in India:

Understanding India's past experiences with population control is vital to inform future policy.

Early Years (1950's-1960's): India initiated the world's first state-sponsored family planning program in 1952. The initial focus was on promoting contraceptive use and raising awareness about the benefits of smaller families, primarily through the "rhythm method" and a "cafeteria approach" offering various contraceptive methods. Funding and technical assistance from international organizations (E.g., World Bank, Ford Foundation, UN Population Fund) played a significant role.

Intensification and Coercion (1970's-The Emergency Period): This period marked a dark chapter in India's population control efforts. Driven by concerns over rapid population growth and influenced by international pressures, the government, particularly during the Emergency (1975-1977), implemented highly aggressive and often coercive measures.

Mass Sterilization Campaigns: The centerpiece was an ambitious plan to sterilize millions of Indian males (and some women), often without informed consent. Targets were set for states and government departments, leading to widespread human rights violations, forced procedures, and abuses.

Socio-Political Backlash: The coercive nature of these policies led to widespread public resentment and significantly contributed to the political downfall of the then-ruling party in the 1977 elections. This period left a lasting scar on public perception of government intervention in family matters.

Policy Design & Implementation Mechanisms:-

Should approach be Voluntary vs. Coercive?

While the Southern states have advocated for incentives-based models, warning that punitive measures such as Assam's two-child norms barring welfare benefits or political participation would risk repeating the trauma of the 1975–1977 Emergency-era of forced sterilizations.

Constitutional Pathways:

The Implementation of the Nationwide Population Control Policy requires amending Articles 47 (public health) and 246 (concurrent list authority), alongside alignment with the National Population Policy's voluntary framework.

Federalism & Representation Crisis:

"The ever-existing Delimitation Dispute".

The Southern states being, Tamil Nadu, Kerala, Karnataka, Telangana, Andhra Pradesh, alongside Odisha & Punjab demand for a 25-year freeze on Lok Sabha seat reallocation to avoid penalizing states that achieved population stabilization.

Would using 2026 census data for delimitation shift political power northward, reducing southern representation by 30%?

Also, Finance Commission grants already disadvantage progressive states due to population-based allocation (50% weightage post-2011 census).

Socio-Demographic Realities:-

The ever existing "Fertility Trends", reach out to a point where 25/36 states/UTs have achieved replacement-level fertility

(TFR \leq 2.1). Gender & Equity Impacts:

Coercive policies disproportionately harm women—increasing unsafe abortions, skewing sex ratios, and restricting welfare access. Female literacy correlates strongly with TFR decline.

The Fundamental Rights: The foundational right to be present in the Constitution. Any policy with coercive elements or disincentives could face legal challenges on grounds of violating fundamental rights (Articles 14, 16, 21). The Supreme Court has previously emphasized reproductive autonomy.

Best Global Practices learnt:

China's One-Child Policy: This highly coercive policy (1979-2015) successfully reduced population growth but came at a massive human cost (forced abortions, sterilizations, gender imbalance, aging population, and the "4-2-1" family structure where one child supports two parents and four grandparents). China is now grappling with the severe consequences of an aging and shrinking workforce and is actively incentivizing larger families.

Thailand: Thailand's family planning program, launched in the 1970's, is often cited as a success story. It focused on voluntary family planning, widespread access to contraceptives, public awareness campaigns, and integration with maternal and child health services. It achieved a rapid decline in TFR without coercion.

Bangladesh: Similar to Thailand, Bangladesh achieved significant fertility decline through a strong focus on empowering women, increasing access to education, and providing comprehensive family planning services, including door-to-door outreach.

National Population Policy 2000 (NPP 2000):

This policy emphasized a holistic approach, aiming to achieve a stable population by 2045. Its key objectives included:

- Universal access to information, education, and services for family planning.
- Reducing maternal and infant mortality rates.
- Addressing issues of gender equality, education, and health.
- Promoting delayed marriages and childbearing.
- Increasing contraceptive usage (though still heavily reliant on female sterilization).

Focus on Reproductive Health and Rights: The NPP 2000 marked a crucial shift towards a rights-based approach, emphasizing informed choice and access to a basket of contraceptive methods.

The committee would look forward for a comprehensive and incontrovertible solution-oriented approach.