

Population distribution in Bangladesh-II

The lower panel of Table 2 presents parallel data for the rural population of Asia. These data, coupled with the set on urban rates suggest why the overall pattern of growth for South Asia in numbers of people and percentage living in urban places digress so greatly in the latter part of the twentieth century. The growth rate of rural population in East Asia was already below the world average and considerably below the average of the less developed regions in 1950-60 decade. The difference was accentuated in the succeeding decades of the century, so that by the last decade, projections suggest that East Asia's rural population will actually decline, that of the world as a whole will continue to grow at just under one per cent and that of the less developed region at one per cent. Rural population growth in East Asia as a whole will thus closely resemble that of the more developed regions of the world by the end of the century.

By contrast, in South Asia the rural population grew at the rate of 1.9 per cent during 1950-60, by 2.2% in 1960-70, by 2.3% in 1970-80 and is projected to begin to decline only in 1980-90. Yet, by the year 2000, the average growth of 1.4% per year will still be almost twice that of the world as a whole and 40% above that of the total for LDCs. This continuing and relatively high growth rate of the rural population at least through the end of the 20th century must not be overlooked in any analysis of urbanization.

It is essential that differential pattern between the two parts of Asia and among the

various sub-units be continuously recognized. East Asia having just over 100 million persons in 1950 will have 722 million persons by the end of the century in the urban areas whereas in South Asia urban population will rise from 100 million in 1950 to 793 million in 2000. Faster initial urban growth in East Asia will be compensated by the slower growth towards the end of the century and South Asia will have the reverse process. But in each part, the urban population will be, by the year 2000, seven times that of 1950 which means exceeding what the total population in the area was in mid century. If one recognizes the problems associated with supporting the population at a reasonable level of living in the years immediately after the Second World War, it becomes somewhat easier to envisage the kinds of problems which Asia will face at the end of the century in trying to support a population exceeding the 1950 level but concentrated entirely in urban places. Add to this the additional 2300 million persons living in rural parts of Asia and the challenges facing the world as a whole and individual societies becomes more than formidable. Because East Asia is experiencing slower rural growth, its rural population by 2000 will be 24% greater than the 1950 population and 6% greater than the 1990 population. The higher growth rates in South Asia mean that the rural population in 2000 will be almost three times greater than that in 1950 and almost twice as great as the 1970 population.

These proportionate increases in the rural population

are less dramatic than the urban growth rates. But while not at all minimizing the importance of the high rates of urbanization, attention must also be focused on the large absolute increases which the rural population will undergo in South Asia. As dramatic as the absolute urban population growth in South Asia will be 555 million persons between 1970-2000 the increase in the rural population of 673 million will be even greater, almost equal to the total population of South Asia in 1970. The large absolute increases in the numbers of persons living in the rural places is significant because of the implications this will have both for the quality of life in the rural places themselves and for even faster tempo of urbanization due to higher rates of migration out of the crowded rural areas.

Because of severely limited data in internal migration, the extent and characteristics of rural and urban change can in most instances be only conjectured. If one assumes that urban population of this region increased at the same rate prevailing for the total population, that is at the rate of natural increase (since international migration in most instances is negligible) it would be less by the difference of the enumerated/estimated/projected urban population of any year and the figure arrived at by that year's natural growth rate calculation and this difference provides an approximate indication of the volume of urban growth directly attributable to net rural-urban migration in certain period of time. Allowance needs to be made for acces-

Father Evans Basketball results

The 6th Fr. Evans basketball tournament started on Friday afternoon at St. Gregory's Court. Fr. Peixotto, Principal, Notre Dame College was the chief guest. The Principal was introduced to the players and one minute's silence was observed in memory of Fr. Evans who laid his life during the liberation war.

The last team Shurid Shanga defeated Ramna Secondary by 45-39 the half time score being 24-21. For the winner's the highest scorer was Richard with 17 pts followed by Jayantia with (15). For the vanquished Nirmol scored (19) valuable pts. In the second game the favourite Five Stars defeated Winner's Club by 65-40. Five Stars' good shooter Mamun scored (26) pts. the next close to him being Babla with (13) pts. For the loser's Babu (16) scored the maximum points.

Second Division Hockey Super League from today

By A Sports Reporter
The Second Division Hockey Super League begins today (Saturday) at the hockey stadium. In all, six teams are participating in the Super League. Earlier the two top teams from each group have qualified for the Super League. Farashganj Sporting will meet United Boys Club in the opening match today at 3.30 p.m.

The following six teams have qualified for the Super League: Dacca Mariners Young Club, United Boys Club, Bachelors Sporting, Rahmatganj MFS, Farashganj Sporting and Ajax Sporting.

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