

Distribution and Pattern of Age Structure among Rural Population in Ranchi District (Jharkhand)

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ABSTRACT

The study of age-structure or age composition has been neglected by geographers because it is less easily observed and appreciated than other aspects of the composition of population. One cannot proceed very far in the study of population growth or migration without examination of age-structure. There is hardly an aspect of individual or communal life which is not affected by age like Economic and social activities, military service, political propensities, social attitudes, mobility etc. Age-structure is directly influenced by three variable : Mortality, fertility and migrations. These variables are not entirely independent. Any change in one variable may influence the other two, but social and economic conditions only influence age-structure through them. Many types of planning like planning of community institutions and services, manpower supply etc. are guided by the age structure of the populations. Age is an important variable and it is used in measuring potential school population, potential voting population, potential man power, future population projections and projections for the requirements of teachers, doctors, technical hands, armed personnel etc. Age is also an important variable in the studies related to mortality, fertility and other demographic characteristics, like dependency ratio etc. The studies of an age composition of a population become important for a population who is engaged in regional Analysis. Fertility, mortality and migration are three basic determinants of age composition of a population. Age structure is one of the most important factor of population composition. In this Research Paper, Distribution and Pattern of Age Structure are described by adoption of the methods like Age Groups and Age Pyramid. This paper also considered the Age Structure of Rural population significantly. In Ranchi district, most of the population are Rural and maximum population are rural within the C.D. Blocks of Ranchi District. This Study gives us description and analysis about Age Structure and it's distribution and pattern among Rural population in Ranchi district. It also affects the Socio-Economic conditions of the Rural population of Ranchi district gradually. The present study is an empirical research conducted in Ranchi district (Jharkhand) which is based on secondary data. In this paper an attempt has been made to throw light on the very important issues of discussion about distribution and pattern of Age Structure among Rural population in Ranchi district.

Keywords: Age Group, Age Pyramid, Age Structure and Rural Population

INTRODUCTION

Age is the aspect of population composition which is most commonly investigated in enumeration. The data on age is also handicaps by mis-statements due to ignorance, carelessness or mis-representation. But, statisticians have several methods for determining the accuracy of age. Age data are often presented in several different ways : age-groups, indices, pyramids and

divergence groups. It is not always possible to obtain the date of birth from a population in which the majority are either illiterate or Semi-literate. In this situation, information on age is collected by asking about "the age completed on the last birthday." It is easy to ask questions on age, but it is extremely difficult to obtain correct information about age when people are illiterate or semi-literate and are ignorant about their own age. In India, the practice of registering births is not widely followed

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and therefore, birth certificates are not available with the Indian people. There is a great deal of apathy on this matter of correct age, because Indians generally do not have to face situations where they have to produce proof of age. The Indian Age data, therefore, show concentration of population at a certain age, for Indians prefer to report their age in numbers ending with 0 or 5. Errors in age reporting also creep in because of carelessness in reckoning age, misunderstanding of the question or deliberate misstatement. As the age data may be defective because of several reasons, demographers first evaluate them to determine the nature and magnitude of errors and then make the necessary adjustments before using such data for demographic analysis. "The socio-economic conditions of a community definitely influence the age structure of concerned population through these variables" (Chandna, 2009). The age structure of a population either males or females are also affected by natural calamities, epidemics, wars, population policies etc. "Fertility, mortality and migration are three basic determinants of age composition of a population. These three determinants of age structure are inter-dependent and any change in one of these may influence the other two and it is through these variables that the socio-economic conditions influence the age structure" (Clarke, 1972).

The United Nations has defined age as "the estimated or calculated interval or time between the date of birth and the date of census, expressed in completed solar years." "The age structure influences the economic and social interactions, social attitudes and social and occupational mobility" (Maurya, 1988). Children upto the age of 14 years are unable to bear any physical and mental burden. Being immature they cannot be reliable with responsible jobs. The persons above 60 or 65 years become too weak to undergo physical strain because of their old age and feeble health. They want to retire and rest in peace for the remaining period of life. Through these variables of age composition (fertility, mortality and migration), the socio-economic conditions of a community definitely influence the age structure of concerned population. After enumeration, population data are classified into Age-groups. Through this classification, it becomes easy to show population distribution by population geographers and demographers. It is very necessary to know about the number of the young, the adults and the old people in the population of any region or country. The young and old population are inactive,

unproductive and dependent but the Adult population are active, economically productive and biologically reproductive. There are different biological, social and economic importance of this age group in any population. Most of the populations in Ranchi district are Rural and indigenous and they are very fond of to live their life in the lap of nature particularly tribal people.

Objectives :

1. To analyze the distribution of Age structure among Rural population in Ranchi district through the statistical measures like Percentage distribution of rural population in different Age groups such as Young, Adults and Old.
2. To analyze the pattern of Age structure among Rural population in Ranchi district through the statistical measure like Age-Sex Histogram or Age Pyramid.
3. To evaluate the Economic dependency in Rural population of Ranchi district through the statistical measure like Dependency Ratio.

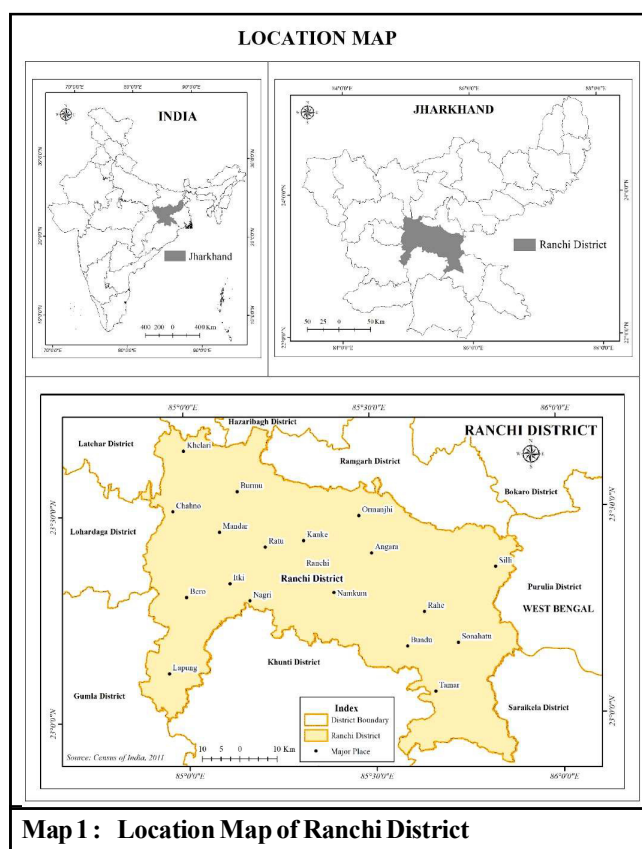
Study Area :

"Some believe that the origin of the name of the district Ranchi derives its name from Purani Ranchi, a village near Ranchi while others suggest that it is an Anglicized transformation of the Mundari word "Aranchi" meaning a short stick used in driving cattle. The tract which corresponds to this district and the other regions of Chota Nagpur Division was known to the Aryans as 'Jharkhand' or the 'Forest Tract'. The origin of Ranchi district has ancient and complex account" (Kumar, 1970). "The present shape of Ranchi district in the political maps of Jharkhand comes into light in 1983. Ranchi district is situated at central location in the map of Jharkhand state (India). The area under study is Ranchi district ranks 1st in terms of population and 3rd in terms of Area. The geographical extent of Ranchi district are spread between Latitude 22° 34' North to 23° 43' North and Longitudes 84° 53' 20" East to 85° 54' East. Total geographical area of Ranchi district is 5097 Km². The Tropic of Cancer at 23½° North passes through Ranchi district at Ormanjhi block (Sinha *et al.*, 2003).

"Ranchi consists of tabular landmass. It has even flat surface with isolated hillocks known as Tongri. The average altitude of Ranchi is 600 Metre above the mean sea level with undulating land features. The district is endowed with healthy climate" (Ahmad, 1965). The total

population of Ranchi district is 2,914,253 (29.14 Lakh) where 1,494,937 Males and 1,419,316 Females during census year 2011. In 2011, the population growth rate of Ranchi district is 24.0 %. The spatial population in the district is uneven. It is larger in the eastern areas but the western areas contain smaller percentage of population. In terms of population density, Ranchi is the 7th densely populated district in the state with 572 persons per Km². The sex ratio of this district is 949 females per thousand males (Census, 2011). The percentage of Urban and Rural populations in Ranchi district are 43.14% and 56.86%, respectively. The total Rural population of Ranchi district are 1,656,918 persons among which 840,528 persons are males and 816,390 persons are females in census 2011. This district has 35.76% Tribal (ST) and 5.25% Scheduled Caste (SC) population. During the year 2000, Ranchi which has been the head quarter of Ranchi district, became the Capital city of the state. East-West maximum width of the district is above 100 Km while North-South maximum length of the district is about 130 Km. There is a good network of transport. Two National Highways NH-23 and NH-33 pass through the district.

“This district has some picturesque spots, cultural centres and historical sites where tourists visit. The waterfalls of Hundru, Jonha and Dasam, Birsa Mrig Vihar, Jagannathpur Temple etc. are attractive tourist sites. The Northern Boundary of Ranchi district is delimited by the presence of catchment area of Damodar Basin and the higher plateau Region called “The Pats”. The Jurisdiction of the district has undergone many changes since 1983 because of creation of New districts such as Lohardaga, Gumla, Simdega and Khunti through bifurcation of old Ranchi district” (Sinha *et al.*, 2003). According to census 2011, Ranchi district is divided into two sub-divisions Ranchi and Bundu whereas under Ranchi Sub-divisions there are 14 C.D. Blocks and Bundu Sub-divisions consists of 4 C.D. Blocks. Ranchi district consists of 18 C.D. Blocks (Community Development Blocks), 303 Panchayats, 1311 Villages and 15 Towns. The Ranchi district is bounded by the Ramgarh, Hazaribagh and Chatra districts in the North, Khunti district in the South, Latehar, Lohardaga and Gumla district in the West and Saraikela Kharsawan district and West Bengal state in the East. The total 18 blocks of Ranchi district are occupied by rural population but only 8 blocks are occupied by Rural as well as Urban population. The given Location map of Ranchi district shown as Map 1.



Map 1 : Location Map of Ranchi District

METHODOLOGY

The paper attempts to analyze distribution and pattern of Age structure among Rural population in Ranchi district. Present study is based on secondary data. It will be calculated and tabulated with assistance of suitable statistical methods and represented by Charts, Diagrams and Histograms.

Finally, this research paper would give concrete suggestions which would be beneficial for analyzing distribution and pattern of Age structure among Rural population. Many types of planning like planning of community institutions and services, manpower supply etc. are guided by the age structure of the Rural population.

Statistical Methods:

The statistical methods used in this research paper are classification of total rural population of Ranchi district into Young, Adult and Old Age groups in absolute numbers and in percentage which indicates distribution of Age structure among rural population. The statistical measure used for showing the pattern of Age structure is Age Pyramid which is also known as Age and Sex Pyramid.

This measure is helpful in forming an idea about the age structure of any population and it is used for describing it. It is also used to compare the age structure of two or more populations at a point of time or to compare the age structure of the same population at different points of time. "Three different methods have been commonly used by the geographers, demographers and other social scientists in the analysis of age structure of population either males or females. These methods are: (a) Age-groups, (b) Age pyramids and (c) Age indices like Dependency Ratio etc." (Bhende and Kanitkar, 1994).

The Dependency Ratio is generally calculated by dividing the number of children (Youngs) plus old age people by the number of adults and multiplying it by hundred. This dependency ratio is an index of age produced drain on a country's manpower potential and it is very helpful in the analysis of an economy. The formula for the calculation of dependency ratio are given as :

$$\text{Dependency Ratio} = \frac{(\text{Young} + \text{Old Population})}{\text{Adult}}$$

Population]*100

or

$$\text{Dependency Ratio} = \frac{P_{(0-14)} + P_{(60 \text{ or } 65+)}}{P_{(15-59 \text{ or } 64)}} K$$

Where $P_{(0-14)}$, $P_{(60 \text{ or } 65+)}$ and $P_{(15-59 \text{ or } 64)}$ denote the population in the age groups 0-14, 60 or 65 + and 15-59 or 64, respectively and where K is 100.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

In this Research Paper, discussion and results are based on distribution and pattern of Age structure among Rural population in Ranchi district (Jharkhand).

Table 1 shown the distribution of Rural population of Ranchi district in broad age groups during 1991 census year. The percentage of Population belongs to Adult age group were recorded maximum as 53.87% and the

Table 1 : Distribution of Rural Population of Ranchi District in Broad Age Groups (1991)

Age-group (in Years)	Total Rural Pop.	Rural Male Pop.	Rural Female Pop.	Total Rural Pop. (in %)	Rural Male Pop. (in %)	Rural Female Pop. (in %)
Young (0-14)	582659	295756	286903	39.27	38.92	39.64
Adult (15-59)	799124	411144	387980	53.87	54.11	53.61
Old (60 or 65+)	90920	46400	44520	6.12	6.10	6.15
Total	1483393	759740	723653	100.0	100.0	100.0

Source:- Census of India, 1991

Table 2 : Pattern of Rural Age Structure of Ranchi District (1991)

Age-group	Total Pop. (Rural)	Male Pop. (Rural)	Female Pop. (Rural)	Total Rural Pop. (in %)	Rural Male Pop. (in %)	Rural Female Pop. (in %)
0-4	198770	99860	98910	13.39	13.14	13.66
5-9	208202	104219	103983	14.03	13.71	14.36
10-14	175687	91677	84010	11.84	12.06	11.60
15-19	127800	66600	61200	8.61	8.76	8.45
20-24	111686	55220	56466	7.52	7.26	7.80
25-29	114109	59045	55064	7.69	7.77	7.60
30-34	102986	50083	52903	6.94	6.59	7.31
35-39	94760	50230	44530	6.38	6.61	6.15
40-44	78740	39866	38874	5.30	5.24	5.37
45-49	67858	36090	31768	4.57	4.75	4.38
50-54	59555	31930	27625	4.01	4.20	3.81
55-59	41630	22080	19550	2.80	2.90	2.70
60-64	42230	21620	20610	2.84	2.84	2.84
65-69	19550	9970	9580	1.31	1.31	1.32
70-74	15420	7910	7510	1.03	1.04	1.03
75-79	5880	2840	3040	0.39	0.37	0.42
80 and Above	7840	4060	3780	0.52	0.53	0.52
Age not stated	10690	6440	4250	0.72	0.84	0.58
Total	1483393	759740	723653	100.0	100.0	100.0

Source:- Census of India, 1991

percentage of population belongs to Old age group were recorded minimum as 6.12% in Rural areas of Ranchi district during 1991 census year and this condition were also similar for male and female population at that moment. The population belongs to Young age group were recorded as 39.27%. In Rural areas of Ranchi district during 1991 census year, the male population were higher than female population belongs to Adult age group but in Young and Old age group, female population were recorded higher than male population. Rural male population were recorded as 38.92% Young, 54.11% Adult and 6.10% male population belongs to Old age group. Rural female population were recorded as 39.64% Young, 53.61% Adult and 6.15% female population belongs to Old age group.

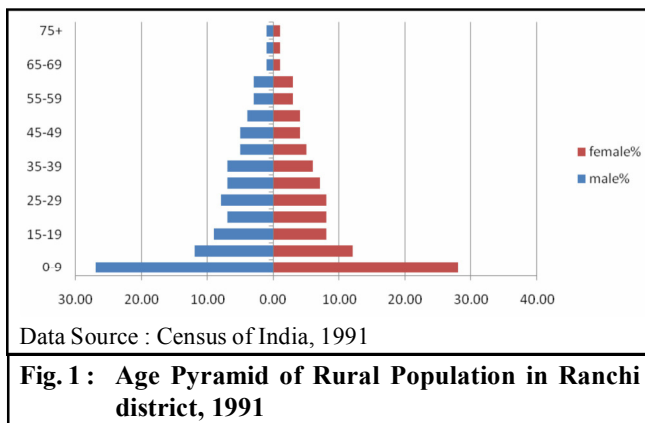


Table 2 reveals about the pattern of Rural age structure of Ranchi district in 1991 census year. It is described that in 1991 census year, the population belongs to 5-9 years of age group were recorded maximum percentage of population as 14.03% and this condition were also similar for male and female population. The minimum percentage of population belongs to 75-79 years of age group as 0.39% and this condition were also similar for male and female population. The Table 2 shows that the percentage of population belongs to 0-4,5-9 and 10-14 years of age were higher during 1991 census year. The population belongs to Young age group were recorded

higher in percentage in comparison to Adult and Old age group.

Table 3 shown the distribution of Rural population of Ranchi district in broad age groups during 2001 census year. The percentage of Population belongs to Adult age group were recorded maximum as 53.55% and the percentage of population belongs to Old age group were recorded minimum as 6.60% in Rural areas of Ranchi district during 2001 census year and this condition were also similar for male and female population at that moment. The population belongs to Young age group were recorded as 39.67%. In Rural areas of Ranchi district during 2001 census year, the male population were higher than female population belongs to Young age group but in Adult and Old age group, female population were recorded higher than male population. Rural male population were recorded as 39.84% Young, 53.55% Adult and 6.42% male population belongs to Old age group. Rural female population were recorded as 39.50% Young, 53.56% Adult and 6.79% female population belongs to Old age group.

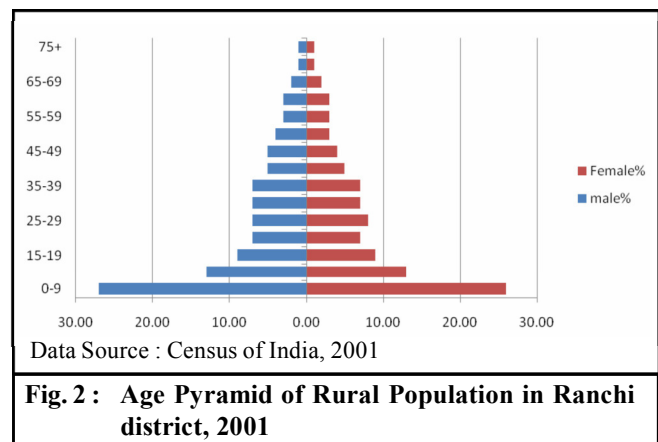


Table 4 reveals about the pattern of Rural age structure of Ranchi district in 2001 census year. It is described that in 2001 census year, the population belongs to 5-9 years of age group were recorded maximum percentage of population as 14.55% and this condition

Age-group (in Years)	Total Rural Pop.	Rural Male Pop.	Rural Female Pop.	Total Rural Pop. (in %)	Rural Male Pop. (in %)	Rural Female Pop. (in %)
Young (0-14)	717109	365130	351979	39.67	39.84	39.50
Adult (15-59)	967941	490752	477189	53.55	53.55	53.56
Old (60 or 65+)	119410	58881	60529	6.60	6.42	6.79
Total	1807243	916347	890896	100.0	100.0	100.0

Source:- Census of India, 2001

Table 4 : Pattern of Rural Age Structure of Ranchi District (2001)

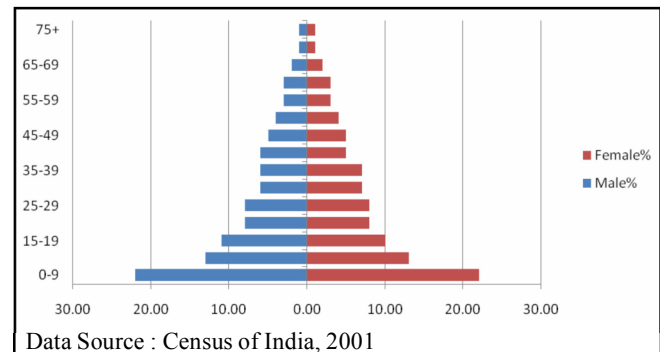
Age-group	Total Pop. (Rural)	Male Pop. (Rural)	Female Pop. (Rural)	Total Rural Pop. (in %)	Rural Male Pop. (in %)	Rural Female Pop. (in %)
0-4	214405	108230	106175	11.86	11.81	11.91
5-9	262960	134079	128881	14.55	14.63	14.46
10-14	239744	122821	116923	13.26	13.40	13.12
15-19	163773	86336	77437	9.06	9.42	8.69
20-24	131728	65278	66450	7.28	7.12	7.45
25-29	133700	66041	67659	7.39	7.20	7.59
30-34	125279	60247	65032	6.93	6.57	7.29
35-39	119740	61206	58534	6.62	6.67	6.57
40-44	95037	48712	46325	5.25	5.31	5.19
45-49	83272	43848	39424	4.60	4.78	4.42
50-54	64240	33817	30423	3.55	3.69	3.41
55-59	51172	25267	25905	2.83	2.75	2.90
60-64	47943	23304	24639	2.65	2.54	2.76
65-69	29627	14146	15481	1.63	1.54	1.73
70-74	21583	10890	10693	1.19	1.18	1.20
75-79	9158	4514	4644	0.50	0.49	0.52
80 and Above	11099	6027	5072	0.61	0.65	0.56
Age not stated	2783	1584	1199	0.15	0.17	0.13
Total	1807243	916347	890896	100.0	100.0	100.0

Source: Census of India, 2001

were also similar for male and female population. The minimum percentage of population belongs to 75-79 years of age group as 0.50% and this condition were also similar for male and female population. The Table 4 shows that the percentage of population belongs to 0-4, 5-9 and 10-14 years of age were higher during 2001 census year. The population belongs to Young age group were recorded higher in percentage in comparison to Adult and Old age group.

Table 5 shown the distribution of Rural population of Ranchi district in broad age groups during 2011 census year. The percentage of Population belongs to Adult age group were recorded maximum as 56.46% and the percentage of population belongs to Old age group were recorded minimum as 7.46% in Rural areas of Ranchi district during 2011 census year and this condition were also similar for male and female population at that moment. The population belongs to Young age group were recorded as 35.09%. In Rural areas of Ranchi district

during 2011 census year, the male population were higher than female population belongs to Young and Adult age group but in Old age group, female population were recorded higher than male population. Rural male population were recorded as 35.21% Young, 56.55% Adult and 7.23% male population belongs to Old age

**Fig. 3 : Age Pyramid of Rural Population in Ranchi district, 2011****Table 5 : Distribution of Rural Population of Ranchi District in Broad Age Groups (2011)**

Age-group (in Years)	Total Rural Pop.	Rural Male Pop.	Rural Female Pop.	Total Rural Pop. (in %)	Rural Male Pop. (in %)	Rural Female Pop. (in %)
Young (0-14)	581490	295990	285500	35.09	35.21	34.97
Adult (15-59)	935519	475395	460124	56.46	56.55	56.36
Old (60 or 65+)	123673	60837	62836	7.46	7.23	7.69
Total	1656918	840528	816390	100.0	100.0	100.0

Source:- Census of India, 2011

group. Rural female population were recorded as 34.97% Young, 56.36% Adult and 7.69% female population belongs to Old age group.

Table 6 reveals about the pattern of Rural age structure of Ranchi district in 2011 census year. It is described that in 2011 census year, the population belongs to 10-14 years of age group were recorded maximum percentage of population as 12.82% and this condition were also similar for male and female population. The minimum percentage of population belongs to 75-79 years of age group as 0.52% and this condition were also similar for male and female population. The Table 6 shows that the percentage of population belongs to 0-4, 5-9, 10-14 and 15-19 years of age were higher during 2011 census year. The population belongs to Young and Adult age group were recorded higher in percentage in comparison to Old age group.

Dependency Ratio of Rural Population in Ranchi District :

“Dependency ratio shows the percentage ratio between dependent population and working population.

The dependency ratio is determined by the Age structure of a population” (Maurya, 1988). The Adult population is considered as active (working) population while children below 15 years and Old persons of 60 or 65 years and above are dependent on active population. “The dependency ratio is generally high in the case of developing and least developed countries of the world mainly due to large number of young population” (Bhende and Kanitkar, 1994).

Table 7 revealed about the Dependency Ratio and it's growth of Rural population since 1991 to 2011 in Ranchi district. The dependency ratio in 1991 were recorded as 84.28% in Ranchi district. But the dependency ratio were recorded as 86.42% in 2001 and 75.37% in 2011, respectively. The Table 7 shows that the dependency ratio were fluctuate continuously since 1991 to 2011 census year as 84.28% (in 1991), 86.42% (in 2001) and 75.37% (in 2011), respectively. It means that population belongs to Young (0-14 years) Age groups or children were decreased since 1991 to 2011 which affected the dependency ratio and it becomes low. It proves that Dependent population were fluctuated and

Table 6: Pattern of Rural Age Structure of Ranchi District (2011)

Age- group	Total Pop. (Rural)	Male Pop. (Rural)	Female Pop. (Rural)	Total Rural Pop. (in %)	Rural Male Pop. (in %)	Rural Female Pop. (in %)
0-4	167916	85553	82363	10.13	10.17	10.08
5-9	201093	102612	98481	12.13	12.20	12.06
10-14	212481	107825	104656	12.82	12.82	12.81
15-19	174038	90992	83046	10.50	10.82	10.17
20-24	136322	69294	67028	8.22	8.24	8.21
25-29	127453	63986	63467	7.69	7.61	7.77
30-34	110038	54023	56015	6.64	6.42	6.86
35-39	108373	54476	53897	6.54	6.48	6.60
40-44	90757	46348	44409	5.47	5.51	5.43
45-49	79343	41458	37885	4.78	4.93	4.64
50-54	59254	30520	28734	3.57	3.63	3.51
55-59	49941	24298	25643	3.01	2.89	3.14
60-64	49485	24010	25475	2.98	2.85	3.12
65-69	34011	16681	17330	2.05	1.98	2.12
70-74	21370	10840	10530	1.28	1.28	1.28
75-79	8676	4210	4466	0.52	0.50	0.54
80 and Above	10131	5096	5035	0.61	0.60	0.61
Age not stated	16236	8306	7930	0.97	0.98	0.97
Total	1656918	840528	816390	100.0	100.0	100.0

Source:- Census of India, 2011

Table 7: Growth in Dependency Ratio of Rural Population in Ranchi District

Dependency Ratio (in %)			Growth in Dependency Ratio	
1991	2001	2011	(1991-2001)	(2001-2011)
84.28	86.42	75.37	2.14	-11.05

Source: Census of India (1991, 2001 and 2011)

decreased continuously since 1991 to recent census year 2011 and it is a positive sign of population development as well as socio-economic development in Rural population of Ranchi district. The growth in Dependency ratio were recorded in positive value during 1991-2001 and in negative value during 2001-2011 decades as 2.14% and -11.05%, respectively. The negative growth in dependency ratio during 2001-2011 decades proves that the burden of dependent population on active population in Rural areas were decreased and growth of dependency ratio were also decreased continuously during these decades and became negative because Rural population of Ranchi district adopted small family norms by using population control methods like contraceptives etc and health facilities are improved in Rural areas.

Conclusion:

After the data analysis, it has been found that distribution of Rural population according to age structure, the population belongs to Young age group are decreased continuously during this decades since 1991 to 2011 but the population belongs to Adult and Old age group are increased from 1991 to 2011 in Ranchi district. This condition is also similar for males and females during these decades. It proves that the Rural population of the Ranchi district is going towards development which can be social, economic and demographic also and it is a positive sign for the rural population of this district where most of the population are belongs to Adult age group who are economically more active and biologically most reproductive. Age structure of male and female in Rural population of Ranchi District are not equal. In some age groups it is in favour of males and some age groups it is in favour of females.

According to Pattern of Age structure, the Rural population belongs to young age group were recorded high and belongs to Old age groups were recorded low and these are similar for male and female population during 1991, 2001 and 2011 census year in Ranchi district. The proportion of young age group in total rural population of a country is influenced by the stage of demographic transition through which it is passing. The proportion of young age group are large in the first and second stage of demographic transition. The proportion of Adult age group are increasing continuously like 53.87% in 1991, 53.55% in 2001 and 56.46% in 2011, respectively. The adults are found physically and mentally suitable for their

engagement in various economic activities. The proportion of Old age group are also increasing continuously like 6.10% in 1991, 6.60% in 2001 and 7.46% in 2011, respectively. The persons of this age group are designated as senior citizens or elders. Thus, Rural Population of Ranchi district are going through development process either socially and economically. The Dependency Ratio in Rural population of Ranchi district were fluctuated and decreased continuously since 1991 to 2011 census year as 84.28% (in 1991), 86.42% (in 2001) and 75.37% (in 2011), respectively. It signifies that Dependent Rural population were decreased continuously since 1991 to recent census year 2011 and it is a positive sign of Rural population development as well as socio-economic development in Ranchi district. So, Economically dependent population are decreased continuously in Rural areas of Ranchi district since 1991 to 2011 census year. So, Population is one of the most significant resource if it is educated and skilful and Sustainability is also related with it because it depends on social, economic and environmental development. Age is one of the most important factor for socio-economic development of Rural population in Ranchi district and particularly in Jharkhand.

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