

TITLE: Population growth, economic development and environment.

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ABSTRACT: This, the fourth chapter in a volume on India's population problem and development, discusses how economic development impacts the environment. The major problem of environmental economics is selecting the best strategy for managing the environment in a way that promotes the welfare of society. In Allen V. Keese's review of economic studies of environmental quality, Kheese finds that 1) the literature is weak in the number of studies devoted to values that affect the control of environmental quality; 2) the literature indicates that even carefully defined value-based rules and regulations governing individual, industrial, and local government decisions on management are not able to assure the highest level of environmental quality; and 3) there is a need for regional program development and appropriate research on institutional and organizational planning. This chapter provides a table of industrial effluent treatment plants in Ujjain division, 1989, comparing capital investment, type of pollution produced, extent of environmental treatment plants, cost of treatment and maintenance, extent of pollution reduction, and recovery recycling activity. The government must take action to control industrial pollution. Although India has fewer cars in urban areas than industrialized countries, pollution is the same or worse. The need for housing and urban territory expansion is shifting agricultural land to residential, commercial, industrial, and public uses.

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