

**Course– B.A.GEOGRAPHY  
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SEMESTER–II  
Topic– DEMOGRAPHIC TRANSITION THEORY**

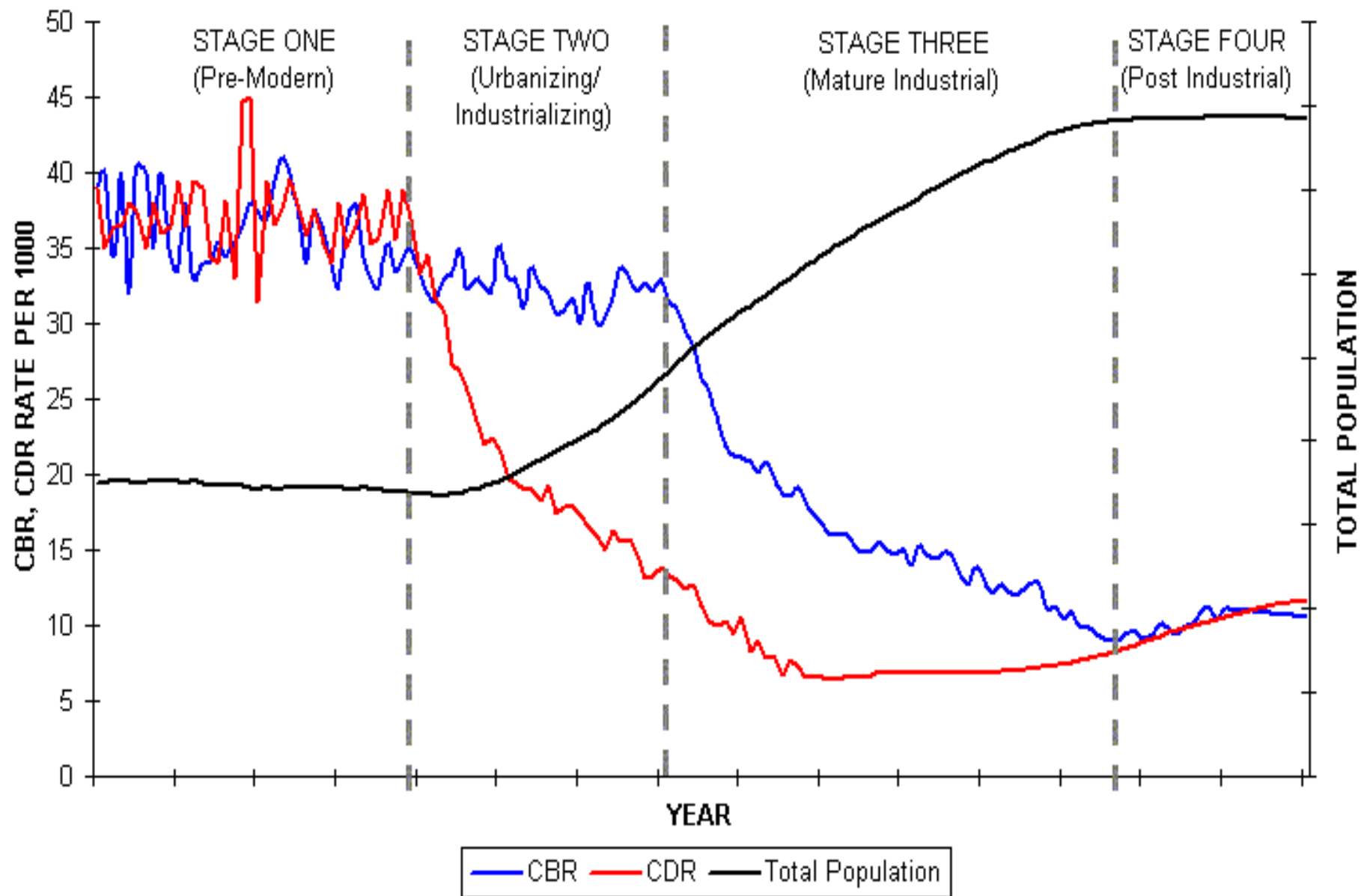
Faculty–Dr. Debjani Sarkar(Ghose)  
Email–[debjanipwc@gmail.com](mailto:debjanipwc@gmail.com)

By

# Introduction

- ▶ The process of change in society's population is called demographic transition.
- ▶ Its focus is on modern population movement in broad terms on major regions of the World.
- ▶ The theory was propounded by W.S. Thompson(1929) and Frank W. Notestein(1945).
- ▶ The Demographic Transition theory describes the pattern of population change experienced historically by now developed countries of Europe, North America and Asia.

# THE DEMOGRAPHIC TRANSITION MODEL



Source of Figure Google Image

# Stages of Demographic Transition

## Stage 1

- ▶ Longest Stage
- ▶ Both Birth Rate and Death Rate are high.
- ▶ Both rates fluctuate, especially Death Rate.
- ▶ GR is quite slow. Stationary Population.
- ▶ BR is high for high IMR and for intensive subsistence agriculture.
- ▶ This stage do not exist as in most backward countries also BR has reduced.

# Stage II

- ▶ BR continues to be high, DR reduced due to advances in Medical Sciences.
- ▶ Natural Increase is high
- ▶ Migration is insignificant.
- ▶ Land for agriculture is permanent, farming is intensive
- ▶ Maximum growth in population.
- ▶ Africa, some southern and south east Asian and few Latin American countries are in this stage.

# Stage III

- ▶ DR continues to decline at slow pace.
- ▶ BR started falling
- ▶ Rate of natural increase reduces than stage II
- ▶ IMR declines, the need to have many children declines
- ▶ With Urbanization, cost of living increases, people opt for small family norm.
- ▶ Some countries of SE Asia like India, many Latin American countries, eastern Europe, China are at this stage.

# Stage IV

- ▶ Low BR, Low DR
- ▶ Natural GR is insignificant.
- ▶ Zero Population Growth Rate.
- ▶ Highly Urbanized country
- ▶ Post Industrial Economy.
- ▶ Mature, Sophisticated Economic System
- ▶ Denmark, Hungary, Japan, France, Germany are in this stage

Stage 1 - expanding

Stage 2 - expanding

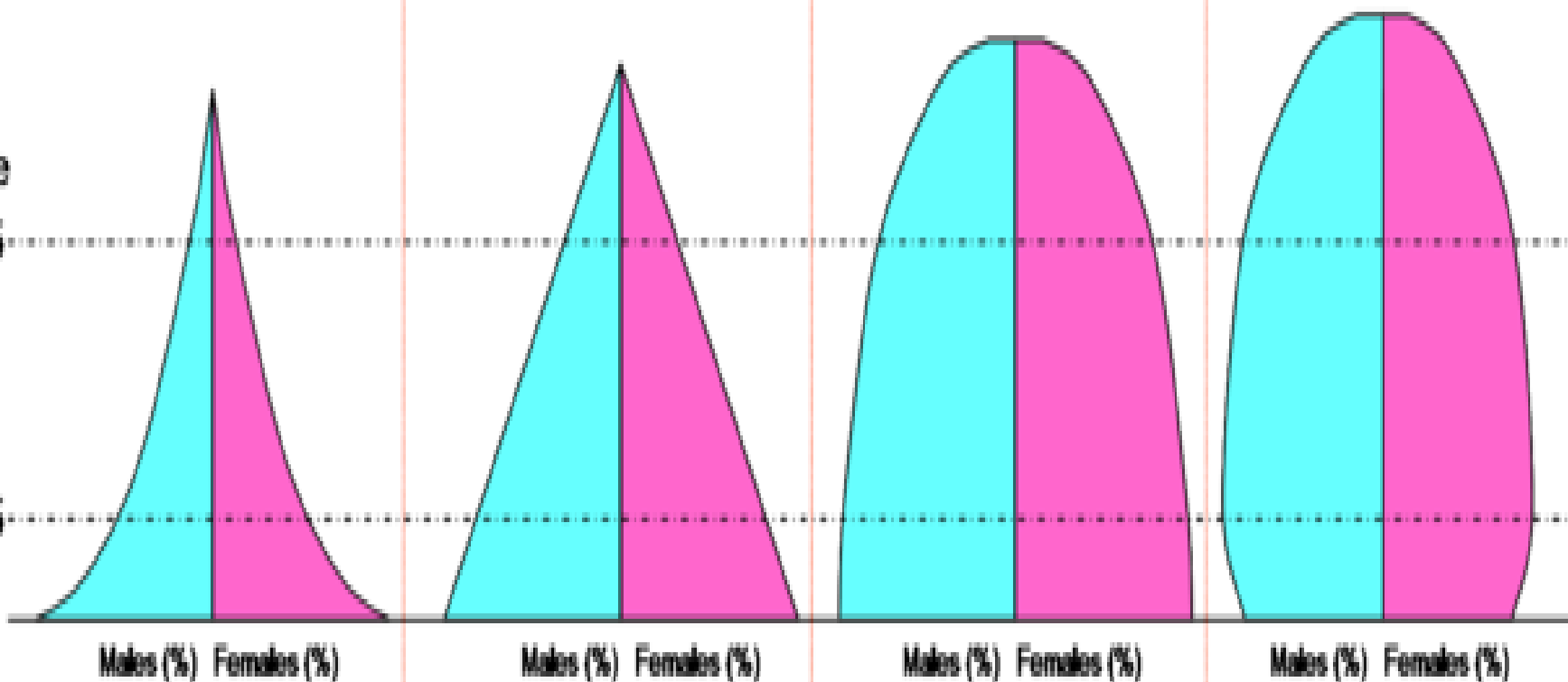
Stage 3 - stationary

Stage 4 - contracting

Age

65

15



High birth rate; rapid fall in each upward age group due to high death rates; short life expectancy.

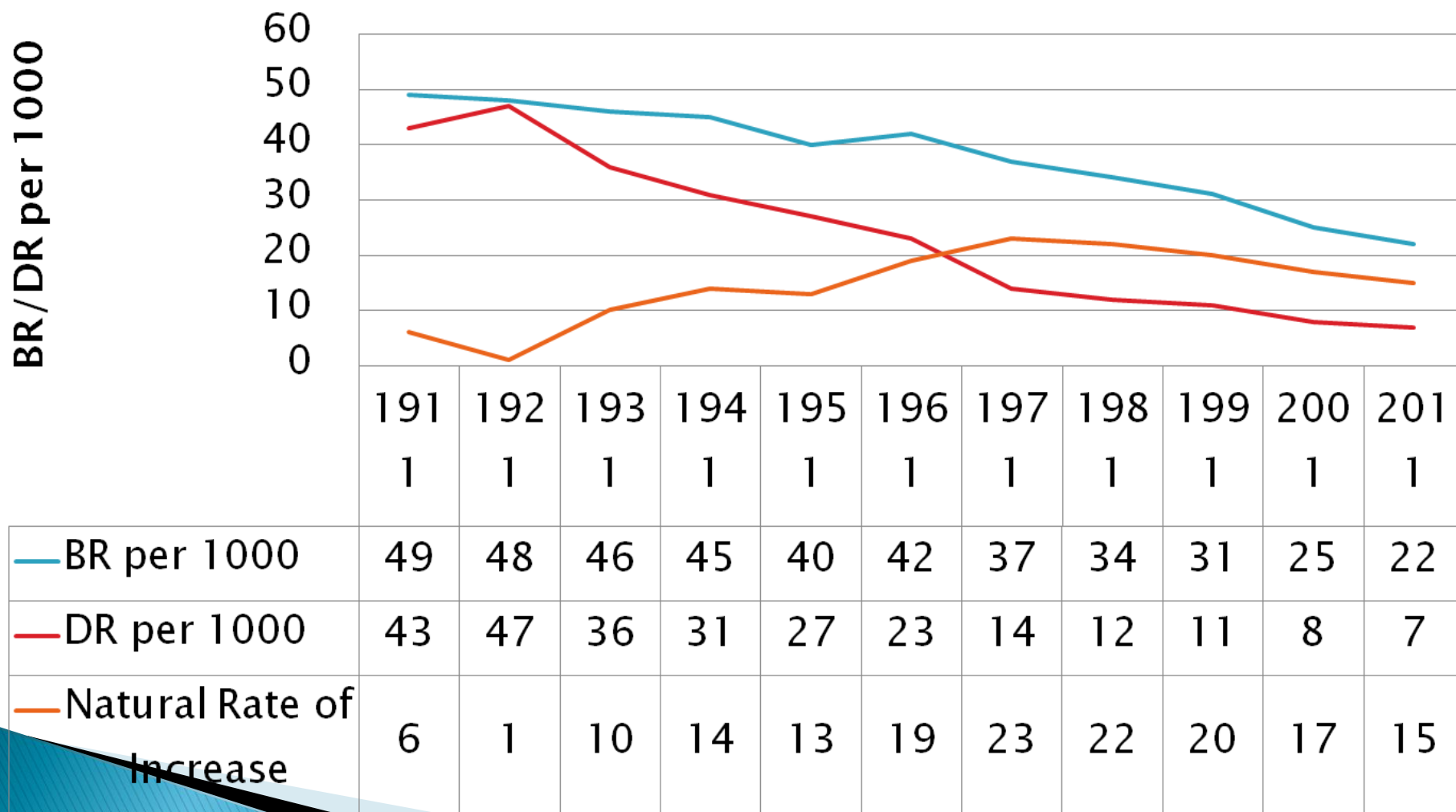
High birth rate; fall in death rate as more living in middle age; slightly longer life expectancy.

Declining birth rate; low death rate; more people living to old age.

Low birth rate; low death rate; higher dependency ratio; longer life expectancy



# India: Natural Rate of Increase, 1901–2011



# Critical Analysis

- ▶ Sequences of stages are not uniform – In some East and South European countries fertility rates declined even when mortality rates were high.
- ▶ But in America, growth rate of population were higher compared to European countries.
- ▶ Birth rate not declined in urban areas initially.
- ▶ Explanation of decline in birth rate varies.

- ▶ Despite the shortcomings, the theory is equally applicable to developed and developing countries
- ▶ India has entered third stage of demographic transition due to better medical facilities and family welfare measures of the Government.
- ▶ On the basis of this theory, the economists have developed economic demographic transition model
- ▶ The theory has universal acceptability.

THANK YOU