It is rather very significant that the entire world in general and India in particular has begun to realise the consequences of population explosion. India and Bihar both double their populations after every one generation. This geometric progression in population has been depriving the nation of its vitality and generating frustration among the people.

If the present growth rate continues to rise unchecked it would be difficult to provide the basic necessities of life to every one in the country.

The researcher has tried to highlight the shortfalls and setbacks of the Population Policy Programmes. In fact, the population is increasing not so much because of the increase of birth rate but because the sharp decrease of rate, the survival rate is much more than what economy cope with.

(The researcher specially considers the two facts in the context of India - the birth rate that is probably the highest and the death rate that is probably certainly the highest.) Then the pressure of population that can not be
relieved by emigration or through Green Revolution. The researcher has no doubt that India is over populated. He argues that every effort should be made to reduce the birth rate and to seek quality rather than quantity. All shortfalls and setbacks in the implementation of population policy programme should be removed in order to achieve their goal. The strife, tumult and tension of the urban areas are increasingly reflected in the country side.

The government of India has been taking all possible measure to check population explosion. The five year plan was taken up in 1952 in order to eradicate poverty from the Indian sub-continent. But even after thirty five years nothing substantial could be achieved. This led the researcher to go into the roots of the problem. In order to find out the reasons for colossal failure of the family planning programmes and its impact on the society, a small study has been conducted on fertility trends and population policy in North East Bihar with the help of censuses.

Finally it is hoped that our findings and suggestion made in the study will help the planners and implementing authority in the future orientation of the programme.

The present work has been structured into ten chapters with an introduction at the beginning and conclusion at the end. These chapters, are arranged orderly starting from an introduction which present, a synoptic review of the
population problem and its consequences as well as the performance of family planning programme under various five year plans.

The plan of study is as follows:

Chapter I introduces the population problem its consequences and presents a review of the family planning performance under various five year plans. It also presents the merits and demerits of Indian population policy. Chapter II deals with aims and objectives, scope and methods and procedures applied to the study; Chapter III studies the religious composition; Chapter IV presents the age structure; Chapter V discusses the married couples; Chapter VI studies birth and death rates indicating a wide gap between them and shows the fertility trends in North East Bihar; Chapter VII describe, the net-migration; Chapter VIII discusses the impact of Indian Population Policy on the Society; and finally chapter IX presents the findings and suggestions. In all these Chapters problems and prospects are highlighted. For making the Chapters more vivid, maps, diagrams, graphs and figures are given.