CONCLUSIONS
AND
SUGGESTIONS
There are so many developing countries in the world, where the population growth rate is much higher than developed countries, since the poor, would not be benefitted of the developments, the attention was naturally focussed on tackling the problems of high population growth. The concern has been to locate those socio-economic variables which has a greater influence on fertility behaviour and to find which of them are possible for the developing countries to organise and administer?

The nature of the Indian demographic transition is a matter of very great importance because firstly India has a vast population about one fifth of the worlds population (almost one third of China is excluded) and secondly India's per capita income levels are well below the thresholds suggested as the minimum which would permit a mass demand on fertility control [128].

The surface area of India is only 2.4% of the world where as the population of India is about 16% of World.
Among the less developed countries Sri Lanka is an important example because of a greater spontaneity is fertility decline and this country has demonstrated that policies which succeed in improving the conditions of the poor, providing educational opportunities for women and increasing life expectancy of the citizens. It is now clear that crude birth rate for the whole India has fallen in the earlier decade. In 1981-1991 decade the birth rate per thousand was 32, which decreases in 1991-2001 and reaches at 26 [129].

In some states, for example in Keral, Maharastra and Karnataka the fall in birth rate was deeper but in the state Uttar Pradesh the birth rate is still high. One of the views behind the fall of birth rate is considered the higher practice rate of contraception. The United Nations study concluded that the significant fall in the birth rates during the last decade in Keral is due to changes in the attitudes to family size arising from longer life expectation, reduction in child mortality and female education. While studying the relation ship between acceptance of contraceptions and socio-economic factors, number of studies have observed that despite high mean age of marriage and female literacy in Kerla, the state of Maharashtra had higher percentage of couples
practising contraception. But the fact that keral has lower birth rate and death rate than Maharashtra leads us to think about certain socio-economic factors which influencing the fertility trends.

The present study related with the fertility measure of Azamgarh city. In this study an attempt has been made to study the influence of certain socio-economic factors on birth rate, for the purpose of study randomly 300 household are selected. From this study we conclude the following results.

1. The average size of household was found 5.85. About 46 percent of household consisted of six or more members in survey period. The percentage of household consists 3 or 4 members was very low. In non nuclear families the average size of household was found 7.

2. About 70 percent households were found nuclear type. In Muslims, the percentage of nuclear type families was the highest and among Hindus, the percentage of nuclear families in scheduled castes was found lower than Hindu others.
3. The average monthly expenditure per household was found to be Rs. 1823 which gave the monthly per capita expenditure average to be Rs. 311. About 57 percent of households were found with per capita monthly household expenditure less than Rs. 400 and about 17 percent only above to Rs. 600.

4. The sample population was found young. 41 percent of the population is below 15 years of age and only 4 percent are fortunate enough to survive to age over 60 years. The broad based and narrow topped population age pyramid indicate high fertility and high mortality in the project area.

5. The distribution of sample population by educational level indicated that the percentage of literacy in women was much lower in comparison to men. The percentage of literacy was found only 28 percent in women where as the corresponding percentage was found 63 percent in men. From the census report 1971, 1981, 1991, 2001 it is clear that the percentage of literacy increases in each decade. In present study nearly 60 percent Hindu scheduled castes were found illiterate. Hindus were found more educated than Muslims. 75 percent women among
schedule castes were found illiterate. The higher educational attainment in each castes and religious group was very low.

6. Total birth figure obtained from all the sample household during period July 2002 to June 2003 indicated the CBR to be 38 and CDR 14. The population increase during survey period was found 24 per thousand per year. Thus the growth rate was found 2.4 percent. If this continues, the estimated population of city in year 2010 would be more than two lac. In another survey it is estimated to be 1.7 Lakh [34].

7. The general fertility rate (GFR) was found 161 which is nearly 4.5 times the CBR. This result is also supported by Thompson and Lewis.

8. About 41 percent of the population is below 15 years of age, which indicate the dependent ratio is much higher in project area.

9. Broad peak type fertility reaching to the peak in the age group 25-29 years age of wife was obtained. Analysis of total births revealed that 76 percent of total births had occurred to women between aged 20 and 34 years. Only 14 percent had occurred to females aged 35 years and above.
About one third of total births had occurred to women who had already given the birth to three children. After age 35 the fertility was found to drop sharply.

10. Among the females aged 35 years and above about 64 percent were found to have three or more surviving children. The average number of children everborn per married women was found to be three.

To study the influence of socioeconomic factors on fertility we have chosen the following variables.

1. Religion
2. Caste
3. Occupation
4. Economic status
   (Male / Female)
5. Age of female at marriage
6. Marriage duration
7. Number of living sons
8. Education
   (Male/ Female)
9. Type of family

In the study the relationship between fertility and the socio-economic factors is obtained. We conclude the following results.
11. In Muslim females the average number of live birth was found higher (4.35) in comparison to other females like Christrians (3.12) and Hindu females (2.89). Which indicated that average number of children everborn in Muslim females was higher than Hindu female. For the purpose, to test the dependency of fertility on religion we introduce the method of statistical chisquare test and it was found 49.3 which is very significant at level 0.01. The test of chisquare confirm that the fertility depends upon the religion. It is also clear that the proportion of respondents who had five live births and above was much higher among Muslims (57.77%) as compared to Christrians (25%) and Hindus (16.8%). The more interesting result obtained that the proportion of respondents who had only 1-2 live births was only 7 percent in Muslims as compared to Hindus and others 34 percent & 25 percent respectively. The similar results were obtaind by Visariya Leela, Reyleigh. Kanitkar, E.D. Driver and study of Mysore.

12. In present study, the Hindu castes were divided in three groups. Brahmin, Kshatriya, Kayastha and Bhumihar belong to forward castes and the backward castes included
Yadav, Lohar, Barai, Nai, Dobhi, etc. Whereas scheduled castes contained Harijan, Bhangies, Mushahars & Mehaters. The average of live birth was found higher in scheduled castes (3.44) followed by backwards (3.01) and forwards (2.39). Which indicate that the average number of children everborn in scheduled castes was much higher than forward castes. For the purpose, to test the influence of castes on fertility, we use the method of chi-square test and it was found 29.1 which is very significant at level 0.01. The test of chi-square confirm that fertility depends upon castes. It is also clear that the proportion of respondents who had five live birth and above was much higher among scheduled castes (48%) as compared to backwards (15.7%) and forwards (5.35%). It is very interesting to see that the proportion of respondents who have only 1-2 live births was only 16% among the scheduled castes as compared to backwards (15.7%) and forwards (5.35%). It is very interesting to see that the proportion of respondents who had only 1-2 live births was only 16% among the scheduled castes as compared to backwards (29.9%) and forwards (51.7%). The similar results were found by G.V. Saxena, Reyleigh in the survey of Varansi.
To discuss the relationship between fertility and occupation of husbands, we divided husbands according to their occupational status in three groups. Farmers, cultivators and agricultural labourers belong to the first group. The lower professional group included clerks, and middle class businessmen and the third group of higher professionals included administrative workers and high class businessmen. From the study we conclude that the average number of live births was found higher (3.58) in cultivators followed by lower professionals (3.37) and higher professionals (2.51). It was also seen that the proportion of respondents who had five live births and above was much higher among cultivators (33.7%) as compared to lower professionals (25.5%) and higher professionals (21%). Whereas the proportion of respondents who have only 1-2 live births was found very low in cultivators (31.4%) as compared to lower professionals (26.9%) and higher professionals (54.3%). To test the dependency of fertility on occupation of husbands we use chi-square test, and it was found 32.2 which is very significant at level 0.01. The test of chi-square confirms that the fertility depends upon the occupation of husbands. The similar results were found by G.V. Saxena in rural Uttar Pradesh, E.D. Driver in middle India and mysour study.
14. To discuss the relationship between fertility and occupation of women, we divided them in two groups. In first group, housewives were taken and the second group included working women. From the findings of study we see that the average number of live births was found higher (3.43) among housewives as compared to working women (2.60). It is also clear that the proportion of the respondents who had five and above live births was much higher among housewives (31.44%) as compared to working women (10.3%) where as the proportion of respondents who had only 1-2 live births was found very low (20%) in housewives as compared to working women (53.4%). To test the dependency of fertility on occupation of women we introduce the method of chi-square test, it was found 26.6 which is very significant at level 0.01. The test of chi-square confirm that the fertility depends upon the occupation of women. The similar results were obtained by Donold Bogh, Joffi & Aajumi, Registrar General 1980.

15. To discuss the relationship between fertility and economical status the data has been collected according to monthly households expenditure. From the study it is clear that the average number of live births was found higher (3.84)
among those, whose per capita monthly expenditure was below Rs. 200, where as the corresponding average was found very low (2.73) among those, whose per capita monthly expenditure was above Rs.600. It is also seen that the proportion of respondents who had five live births and above was much higher (53.52) among those, whose per capita monthly expenditure was below Rs.200 where as it was found very low (9.5) among those whose percapita monthly expenditure was above Rs.600. It is very interesting to see that the proportion of respondents who had only 1-2 live births was found only 12.67 percent among those, whose per capita monthly expenditure was below Rs.200 where as it was found maximun 54 percent among those, whose per capita monthly expenditure was above Rs. 600. To test the dependency of fertility on economic status we use chi-square test and it was found 55.13, which is very significant at level 0.01. The test of chi-square confirm that there is an inverse relationship between economic status and fertility. The similar results were obtained by Majumdar in Kanpur survey, Mukarjee & Baljeet Singh in Lucknow survey. Robert Keison also found the inverse relation between fertility and economic status. Sinha 1957, Krishanmurthy 1974, RGI 1980, Mahadaven 1986 were also support the findings of this survey.
16. For the study of the fertility according to age at marriage of female, the female were divided in three groups. In first group the age at marriage was below 18 years, in second group 18-21 years and third group above 21 years aged. From the findings of study it is clear that the average number of live births was much higher among age group below 18 years (4.06) as compared to age group above 21 years (2.03). The proportion of respondents who had five live births and above was much higher among age group below 18 years (36.36%) as compared to age group above 21 years (15%) whereas the proportion of respondents who had only 1-2 live births was only 12% among age group below 18 years as compared to age group above 21 years 57.72%. To test the dependency of fertility on age at marriage we use chi-square test it was found 39.2 which is very significant at level 0.01. Thus fertility depends upon the age at marriage of females. This survey report was supported by several studies *Mysore fertility measure*, Talwar, G.V. Saxena, Kumudini dondeker, Reyleigh & Kanitkar 1980, Klesterline & Kleland 1985 & Reddy 1986.
17. The study of fertility measure according to marriage duration indicated that the average number of live births was found much higher (3.7) among those whose marriage duration was greater than 21 years as compared to those whose marriage duration was less than 18 years (2.9). The proportion of respondents who had five live births and above was much higher (45.7) among those women whose marriage duration was greater than 21 years as compared to those whose marriage duration was less than 18 years (14%). Where as the proportion of respondents who had 1-2 live births only was much higher (33.8) among those women whose marriage duration was less than 18 years as compared to those whose marriage duration was greater than 21 years (23%). To test the dependency of fertility on marriage duration we apply chi-squared test, it was found 27.4 which is very significant at level 0.01. The test of chi-square confirm that the fertility depends upon the marriage duration. The present study is also supported by Mahadaven 1979, Murthy and Raju 1986, Reddy 1986.

18. To discuss the relationship between fertility and number of living sons, we divided sample female in four groups. The first group consists of those women who had no living sons,
second group contained those women who had one living son, third group contained those women who had two living sons and the last fourth group contained those women who had three or more living sons. From the findings of study we conclude that the average number of live births was found 3.65 among those women who had no living sons where as this average was found 2.45 among those women who had one living son. This result indicate that the intense desire of one son in every couple. To test the dependency of fertility on number of living sons we use chi-square test, it was found 72.23 which is very significant at level 0.01. The test of chi-square confirm that the fertility depends upon the number of living sons. This result was supported by Mahadevan in Tamilnadu, Reddy in Haderabad, I.C. Tiwari and K. Anand.

19. To discuss the relationship between fertility and educational level we divided males and females according to their educational status in four groups.

(i) Illiterate       (ii) Up to primary level
(iii) Up to higher secondary   (iv) Above
From the study we conclude that the average number of live births was found higher (3.56) among those female whose husbands were illiterate as compared to highly educated (2.43) It also be seen that the proportion of respondents who had five live births and above was much higher among those female whose husbands were illiterate as compared to highly educated. Where as the proportion of respondents who had only 1-2 live births was found very low in illiterates as compared to highly educated. To test the dependency of fertility on education of husbands we use chi-square test, it was found 59.8 which is very significant at level 0.01. From these finding we conclude that as well as the educational level of husband increases the fertility decreases.

20. As compared to husbands, the education of female (wives) highly affects the fertility measure. The average number of live births was found much higher among illiterate females as compared to highly educated females. The proportion of respondents who had five live births and above was much higher among illiterate females as compared to highly educated, where as the proportion of the respondents who had only 1-2 live births was very low in illiterate females.
as compared to highly educated females. To test the dependency of fertility on education of female, we use chi-square test, it was found 54.6 which is very significant at level 0.01. This confirms that the fertility depends upon the education of female. The education of female is more effective to decline the fertility rate as compared to males. The similar results were obtained by E.D. Driver 1963, Mangalwaker 1982, Garnier 1976.

21. In the present study, total sample population was divided into two types viz nuclear and non nuclear type. The average number of live births was found higher (3.76) among nuclear family (2.60). In nuclear family nearly 80% females had three or more children, whereas this proportion was found only 55 percent in non nuclear family. To test the dependency of fertility on the type of family, we use chi-square test, it was found 11.8 which is significant at level 0.01. This confirms that the fertility depends upon the type of family. This result is also supported by the results of Pakarassi, Bebarata 1967, R.P. Gyol 1988, J. Koffi & Sudhir Dutta 1960.
SUGGESTIONS

The study finds that births to women are influenced by a number of socio-economic factors like religion, casts, occupation, economic status, age at marriage, marriage duration, number of living sons, education and type of family. The attitude of size of family also affected the rate of birth, regarding age at effective marriage. It must raised to 20 years because women marrying after 20 years of age were found to have 2 less children than those marrying early after 25 years marriage duration. Although the Government of India raised the minimum legal age at marriage to 18 years by enactment of child marriage restraint Act 1978 but in the light of maternity pattern and prolific sterility a strict legislation must be enacted so that no girl is allowed to marry below 20 years of age. This will have good effect on the reduction of fertility. Many researchers have indicated that there is a small reduction in birth rates unless is a substantial increase in age at effective marriage[84], [90].

If at least 19 years age at effective marriage can be achieved, the crude birth rate, especially in the Azamgarh city will go down by about 2.5 points. This decline is significant not only for its magnitude but also in importance.
Raising the age at marriage will help in reducing the fertility in younger age group 15-24 of women. This group alone contributes about one third of all births. Besides this, the acceptance rate of contraceptives in this age group is not appealing. All the contraceptives are highly accepted after 30 years of age.

It has been our experience that marriage age can not be raised by legislation alone. It must be related to education of female because several researches have revealed that age at affective marriage in educated class is found high. The delayed marriage and the education both are related to each other. The delayed marriage will enable obviously the girls to take advantage of opportunities of education and cultural pursuits. It is clearly found in the fertility differentials by education that small index in education level had significant effect on birth rate.

Thus with increase of age at marriage, the girls must be educated up to at least primary education. In the present study, we found that only fourteen percent of females population in the age gp. 15-24 has studied up to primary level. So of necessity and not by chance the actual age
at marriage should be higher than the minimum age of 18 years set up by the legislation at present and simultaneously female education must be necessary up to at least primary level.

It will not be possible to increase education among female unless education among male also increase. In present study, about forty percent males in age group 15-24 are educated beyond primary level. Increased education of male is necessary also for raising the acceptance rate of contraceptives. To achieve the goal, the programme of compulsory education for all children from 5 to 18 years should be introduced. This will increase the period of dependency which possibly provide to female limitation. The attitude to limit the family size, is, as we have seen, an important factor in reduction of birth. In the urban areas, the education will increase the earning capacity of the males and thus raise the economic status of the family and raise the standard of living. The economic status is found inversely related to fertility. The increasing standard of living, brought out by education and economic avocation would reduce their subservience to the primitive physiological urge to reproduce new pattern of family and birth control are prevalent only among the highly educated. It is a happy feature that education has been made compulsory up to the age of 14.
We have found that majority of married couples have heard about the contraceptives but only a few have accepted it. Increasing the age at marriage or reducing the birth rate through male and female education is a long, experience but sure way. This plan must be developed to impart non-formal education & child care.

Thus our study is demographic as well as social having a normative character. It is demographic as it examines the level in fertility of women reproductive age group 15-44 years in urban areas. It is a social research study as it finds the actual conditions of social life such as literacy position, marital position and economic position etc. of the people in the project area. It is also normative in the sense that it aims at evaluating the soundness and success of the national family planning programme in its predetermined objective of bringing about zero growth rate of population, the promotion of new innovatives. We think that this current information on measure of fertility in the project area will be much helpful for family planning programmers, policy makers and administrators etc. in promoting the family planning schemes may be also helpful in reducing the birth rates in the Azamgarh city (the project area).