

"ASIA: 2/3 AND COUNTING"

VIDEO

FCOTAGE

AUDIO

NARRATOR:

PEDESTRIANS CROSSING
STREET

In the summer of 1974, there were approximately three and one-half billion people. Somewhere between then and the year 2000, we will most likely double our population. There will probably be about seven billion people.

DELEGATES INSIDE
HALL

So the world got together, for the first time ever, to view with alarm; or to charge that those who speak of a population explosion are viewing with false alarm; to admit that they have a serious problem; or to state that the most serious problem they have was a lack of people. But they did meet, and they did talk about it ...

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KURT WALDHEIM
U.N. SECRETARY-GENERAL
ON CAMERA

WALDHEIM: (SYNC)

I declare open the United Nations World Population Conference ... We meet for the first international conference of governments to discuss (VO) population policy ... the draft world population plan of action is to be presented here for your assessment. It addresses itself to problems associated with rapid population growth and therefore speaks to nations concerned about this matter.

DELEGATES

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NARRATOR:

MOTHER CARRYING
CHILD

India is one nation very much concerned about
this matter. She has six hundred million

PAN OVER GROUPS
OF CHILDREN

today and is growing at the rate of more than
a million a month. However serious her
problems of underemployment and hunger are

INTERIOR
MATERNITY HOSPITAL

now, they will probably get a lot worse, more
than six hundred million times worse, in the
next twenty-five years. For the Indian
Government predicts her population will more
than double ... Bangladesh, Pakistan,

Indonesia, most of the rest of Southeast Asia,
find themselves in much the same predicament.

They -- together with China and Japan --
account for some two-thirds of the present
world population. What has happened in Japan,

what is happening in China, and what will
probably happen in India and the rest of

Southeast Asia, is vital to the whole world,
for they are now two-thirds of it, and

TITLES

ASIA:
2/3 AND COUNTING

A UNITED NATIONS PRODUCTION

C.U. OF NEW-BORN
BABY

Dr. Karan Singh, India's Minister of Health

96 and Family Planning ...

FARM SCENES

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DR. SINGH: (VO)

In India, which has 14 per cent of the world's population, every seventh person in the world is an Indian, we have been trying to reduce fertility for over two decades. Ours is the oldest and possibly the largest family planning programme in the world sponsored by a government.

MEN HAULING WATER
OUT OF WELL

WOMEN CARRYING
WATER JUGS

DR. KARAN SINGH,
MINISTER OF HEALTH
AND FAMILY PLANNING,
INDIA, O.C.

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The real problem in our country is poverty. And we feel that poverty is the main cause for overpopulation because it has been found all over the world that when living standards rise, population growth begins to fall automatically. 80 per cent of India still lives in the villages. So that's a large number of people in the villages.

(SYNC) And our new approach is to integrate family planning and health into the minimum needs programme and deliver an entire package to the rural communities. We feel that family planning can no longer be locked upon as simply an independent separate programme. It has got to become part of our assault on poverty.

WOODCUTTER BEING
INTERVIEWED (O.C.)

(SYNC interview with woodcutter)

NARRATION: (To be added V.O. - translation from Rajasthani)

Woodcutter: I am not going to have it done.

Interviewer: Why aren't you going to have it done?

Woodcutter: Because I have a lot of hard work to do.

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NARRATOR:

C.U. WOODCUTTER'S
FACE

In India, sterilization for both men and women is a practical form of birth control. But there is great difficulty overcoming superstitions and getting correct information to the people.

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FAMILY UNDER TREE
IN VILLAGE

This family lives under a tree. They are villagers who came to the city in search of work. They don't believe in family planning either. The family consists of a mother, four daughters, and a son. She had four other sons, but they all died. Now her surviving son is the sole supporter of the family.

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FATHER UNDER TREE
WITH HIS 8 CHILDREN
TALKING TO INTERVIEWER
(O.C.)

(SYNC interview with father.)

He also has a family of his own, eight children, and he does not believe in family planning, because if he should die, his sons will take care of his wife. And besides, he explains, the children don't eat very much food, and by the time they are 10 years old, they can earn their keep.

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When asked about school for his children,
 he says it is out of the question. He doesn't
 have enough money for school, and he also
 believes that once the children go to school
 they won't want to do hard work anymore.

CHILDREN ON
 RICKSHAW

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DR. SINGH: (VO)

Unless we can drastically reduce the morbidity and mortality rate of children in the rural areas, it will not be possible for us to persuade our villagers to take to family planning. It is not enough for us to say family plan because in the year 2000 it will be helpful, that's not good enough.
 (SYNC) We've got to be able to prove to the man that it is in his immediate interest to have less children. And that can only be done if we can assure him or give him reasonable assurance that the children that he does have will survive.

GROUP OF MOTHERS
 WITH CHILDREN

DR. SINGH,
 O.C.

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INTERIOR HOSPITAL
 BABY BEING FED
 SHOTS OF BABY

(VO) Otherwise, he'll simply say that ... I need the children ... even if I want only three children I must have six in order to insure that three survive. So ... a basic aspect is the increase in the general health services, the general standards of nutrition, of immunization, and so on so that family planning becomes part of our efforts to build a better life for the people of India.

DOCTOR ATTENDING TO
 MOTHER AT HER BEDSIDE

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NARRATOR:

ZOOM BACK TO REVEAL
 EXPECTANT MOTHER
 NEARING DELIVERY

The family planning programmes are generally successful in the urban areas, particularly in the large cities like Bombay where almost 90 per cent of the women have some sort of professional maternity and health care.

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(pause)

But it is a different situation for the

nearly 500 million people living in villages.

HERD OF GOATS IN VILLAGE Before the government can introduce health

care, it must first fulfill basic needs like

DISSOLVE TO VILLAGE

WATER JUGS 251 roads and safe drinking water.

WOMAN CARRYING WATER

JUG ON HER HEAD

(OV) : MEMIS 20

OUTDOOR CLASS FOR MULTI-PURPOSE HEALTH WORKER

DR. SINGH: (VO)

And the "Minimum Needs Programme" is designed to attack the problems of poverty in the villages. In order to achieve this, we are gearing our entire resources. We are putting together the various workers that we had for malaria and small pox and family planning and so on, and as it were merging them into a single, multi-purpose worker, male and female.

CLASS LISTENING TO LECTURE (C.U.)

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OUTDOOR CLASS CONTINUES (Lecture continues)

DISSOLVE TO WOMEN

HEALTH WORKERS TALKING

TO MOTHERS OUTSIDE OF

THEIR HOMES

BABIES BEING VACCINATED

OUTDOORS

NARRATOR:

In 1974 India's population of 600 million

increases by about 13 million, what has become

their normal rate of growth. This is mainly

because improved health standards have cut

the death rate dramatically. People live

longer and they are having as many children

as ever. Children are still considered a form

of social security.

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INTERIOR HOSPITAL -
MOTHERS WITH CHILDREN
ATTENDING CLASS ON
CHILD CARE AND NUTRITION

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Only improved living conditions can change
this traditional attitude. And for that
economic development is essential. (Pause)

But there are many blocks to economic
development. There are natural calamities
like droughts or floods. There are economic
calamities like oil shortage and worldwide

inflation. And always there is the harsh
problem of unequally shared resources.

MOTHER AND BABY
DEMONSTRATION
BREAST FEEDING

INDIAN MAN VOICING HIS
OPINION IN A STREET
OF BOMBAY (O.C.)

MAN: (SYNC)

Family planning is a lot of shit, you
know. Because the people don't have
any food to eat, how do you expect them
to put on a condom before they have
sex at night? I don't think your family
planning has a chance of succeeding,
especially in the underdeveloped countries

How do you expect us to control our
population when the West is not
controlling its consumption? Do you
know that America consumes 35 per cent
of the world's resources?

Look at all these boys, sometimes when
they grow up, they will help their
parents earn a living. And nobody could
be bothered about what is going to
happen 20 years hence, its the moment,
this moment ...

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PEOPLE LIVING IN THE
STREETS OF BOMBAY
DIFFERENT SCENES OF
LIFE WITH CHILDREN
AND ADULTS

(VO) You know, really, when you start
talking of family planning, the whole
problem is who's really bothered? Who's
got the time? We are all so tired.

I mean even those who don't really have to worry too much about a living. But, really, we are very tired, just fighting this climate, fighting so many problems -- the bureaucracy, the state of the country, the railway strike, the government's apathy to everything, our apathy to everything ... And we are are combatting that, at that moment, think of family planning? Frankly, even as an educated man, family planning just does not cross my mind.

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BILLBOARD PRO-
FAMILY PLANNING

MOBILE HEALTH
SERVICES VAN
PASSING THROUGH

HEALTH SERVICES
VAN ARRIVING AT
DISTRICT HOSPITAL

DR. SINGH: (VO)

As a result of the depression of economic standards for many centuries, the population has grown. And we feel that the tremendous growth in population has been the result of poverty, and of course, in turn it begins to affect poverty most of all ... so it's sort of a vicious circle. But the circle has got to be broken at the poverty level. What we are fighting is poverty; not the people.

NARRATOR:

India's lesson: fight poverty first, then the people can afford to think about birth control. China learned this more than 20 years ago. She fought poverty first.

DELEGATES AT WORLD
POPULATION CONFERENCE,
LISTENING

DR. HUANG: (VO)

In the 20-odd years since the founding of the People's Republic of China, China's population has increased nearly 60 per cent from about 500 million to nearly 800 million. Yet, in the same period, annual grain output has more than doubled, rising from 110 million to over

DR. HUANG SHU-TZE
VICE-MINISTER OF HEALTH
PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF CHINA

PAN OVER CHILDREN'S
FACES

FARMERS PLOWING
FIELDS
DR. HUANG,
C.U.

250 million tons, and the output of
textiles and other industrial products
has increased manyfold.

FARMERS WORKING
IN RICE FIELDS

NARRATOR:

At present, the area under cultivation is
only slightly more than 10 per cent of her
total territory. There are enormous
potentialities untapped since there remain
vast areas to be reclaimed and the per
hectare yield can still be greatly raised.

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VEGETABLE PEDDLERS
CARRYING GOODS ON
THEIR SHOULDERS

At present the living standards of our people
are still rather low, yet everyone is ensured

STREET CLEANER

of employment, food and clothing and the
livelihood of the people is steadily improving.

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FACTORY WORKER

On the basis of energetically developing
production and raising the living standard

DOCTOR EXAMINING
PATIENT
INTERIOR HOSPITAL

of the people, China has developed medical
and health services throughout the cities
and countryside, strengthened the work of
maternity and child care, and, while reducing
mortality on the one hand, practised birth
planning on the other to regulate the birth
rate.

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MOTHER NURSING
BABY

MOTHER WITH HER FAMILY

STREET SCENES

CHILDREN IN PLAYGROUND
CHILDREN PLAYING IN SWING

GIRLS PLAYING SKIPPING ROPE

KUNIKICHI SAITO,
MINISTER OF SOCIAL WELFARE, JAPAN

STUDENTS

TWO GIRLS TALKING ON THE STREET

DR. HUANG: (VO)

Our birth planning is not merely birth control as some people understand it to be, but comprises different measures for different circumstances. In densely populated areas, late marriage and birth control are encouraged on the basis of voluntariness, while active treatment is given in cases of sterility. In national minority areas and other sparsely populated areas, appropriate measures are taken to facilitate population growth, while birth control advice and help are given to those parents who have too many children and desire birth control. Of course, these are but initial achievements. We have not yet acquired adequate experience in the work of birth planning and we must continue our efforts.

NARRATOR:

China's lesson: No more poverty and as few or as many people as she plans. Japan's population success story is told in very

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different and almost totally economic terms.

MR. SAITO: (VO)

In the course of Japan's economic development since World War II, some of our nation's biggest problems - an inadequate food supply, lack of full employment and a disproportionate number of women - have shown such a remarkable improvement that foreign observers might have the impression that in Japan the population problem doesn't exist anymore. However, as time passes and new developments occur, we have new problems to face. First of all, due to Japan's rapid economic development, the younger generation is moving to the cities to find jobs; and that has brought on a manpower shortage in farming ...

And the young generation finds labour and environmental problems in the big cities too. Secondly, during World War II, the death rate increased considerably, and after that the birth rate dropped drastically.

FACTORY WORKERS ON THEIR WAY TO PLANT 547

NARRATOR:

It was not right after World II that the birth rate dropped. First there was a baby boom fathered by veterans of the Pacific fighting such as these. Then in 1949, there was legalized abortion. The combination of that and the Japanese economic miracle of the fifties and the sixties was what caused the birth rate to drop so drastically.

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JAPAN HARBOUR Because what the country had failed to win by force of arms -- sources for raw materials and markets for manufactured goods -- she legitimately acquired as byproducts of her booming post-war economy.

JAPANESE SHIP 571

Though her heavy industries had been shattered by strategic bombing, her work force was largely intact ... And her work force was not only literate and well trained -- it had the energies fostered by life in a moderate climate, the necessary wills to survive a cold winter, a hot summer, and the seasonal

LONGSHOREMEN WORKING IN DOCKS

changes in between. Japan also had two other major things going for her: no modern history of colonial domination by anybody, and a work ethic that could and did put it

595 all together.

BEACH SCENES

By October 1973 her people enjoyed the highest standard of living in Asia -- as well as one of the highest standards of living in the world. There was virtually no unemployment, and the people were so rapidly approaching zero population growth that many businessmen were not only voicing concern about where the future workforce for an expanding economy would come from, they were actively lobbying against abortion.

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INTERIOR HOUSE
CHILDREN PLAYING
WHILE MOTHER
LOOKS ON

FACTORY

Though she may no longer have a population problem as such, her people face virtually every other major problem known to the rest of the industrially developed world plus a few uniquely their own.

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COMPANY CAFETERIA

Along with their fringe benefits are free lunch at the company cafeteria and free medical care at the company clinic, comes

WOMEN WORKERS
EXERCISING

setting up exercises to begin the day

And the responses of reading sessions design
 to assure devotion to duty as a manager
 reminds his section to "let us always think
 of industrial development" ... and the
 employees repeat "let us always think of
 industrial development" ...

READING SESSION
 CONDUCTED BY MANAGER

668

PEOPLE VISITING
 SHRINE

There are also extra-curricular activities to
 reinforce the employee's identity with the
 company: Outings to a shrine ... And an
 annual company picnic complete with a tug of

RECREATION SCENS
 MALE EMPLOYEES PLAYING
 TUG OF WAR

675

war ... The notion being that in the company
 that plays together, nobody ever goes on strike

AUTOMOBILE PLANT

To any of the world's half billion who are at
 or near the starvation level, it would be
 irrelevant -- if not insulting to say
 "that man does not live by bread alone";
 but the boredom of an assembly line is just
 as real, whether it be Detroit, Moscow or
 Tokyo.

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JAPANESE ASSEMBLY
 LINE WORKER ...
 SAYING HE DOESN'T
 LIKE FUN AND GAMES

WORKER:

Well, what we thought originally and
 what we originally are doing now there
 is a great ----- because what he is doing
 now is quite monotonous assembly work.
 Especially middle age and old people
 appreciate their loving care by the big
 bosses of the company.

C.U. FACE OF
 JAPANESE WORKER

But many young people are ----- their interests are varied. They don't want to take a summer trip with the company people, with the whole family out together, they don't like this kind of system.

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SAILING

NARRATOR:

715 Others complain about pollution ...

"It is already killing the Japanese people, I mean the sewage and dust are building up in the concentration of industry. Many are killed. You have heard about Minamata ... the gas mercury pollution in which many, many persons killed. And in Kawasaki, people are dying of asthma.

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NARRATOR:

C.U. JAPANESE WOMEN STUDENTS

Or the role of women ... this is one of only ten girls enrolled in Tokyo University's

LAW STUDENT

Freshman Law class of 600 ... For example ... marriage itself is something else that many

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Japanese women are beginning to resent ...

BOUTIQUE LADY:

If I marry one of those programme little businessmen, the big thing of my life will be my marriage ceremony and my honeymoon. And when I come back, I will probably be pregnant. And I will have my first baby and my husband will keep going out. He won't change his batchelor's way of life. He will stay late every night and I will have to get home and wait the children. And once a week, we will all go out to do something and it is just a completely uninspired life.

764

NARRATOR:

OLD MAN WITH
GRAVES

767

Or being uprooted by industrial growth ...

OLD MAN:

The biggest reason is that they want to stay ... they want to stick to their land what their ancestors have given them and they have been living here for several hundred years. They don't want to be drifting around with their ancestors' grave in their hands. They don't want to be the refugees.

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NARRATOR:

OFFICE SCENES

And when they do have a labour dispute, it is both colourful and loud ... But the work ethic is strong enough in some to overcome any demonstration --- even when it is right inside the office ...

WORKERS
DEMONSTRATING

790

There is serious overcrowding ... Japan has one of the highest population densities in the world in those areas where her people are concentrated. Over half of Japan's 108 million lives on less than 5 per cent of her land. Not as surprising as it sounds because only about 10 per cent of her total area is not mountainous or uninhabitable .

JAPANESE IN
SUEWAY STATION

809

PEOPLE PUSHING IN
TO GET THROUGH
SUBWAY DOOR

And there is a problem in rationalizing the national identity where "Shinto" shrines can be found not too far from the largest

SHOT OF MACDONALD'S
SHOP

MacDonald's hamburger shop in the world ...

But it is a modern consumer economy ...

And that is both its major strength and

825

major weakness ...

DIET MEMBER
SPEAKING

DIET MEMBER:

We have very special problem in urban life and the poverty spirits in the midst of plenty. Japan is now facing the turning point not only on the domestic but also internationally, part of what we are losing in the national potential, What's Japan is doing, what we are looking for, that's what we are losing. So this we have to find out from here.

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NARRATOR:

TRAFFIC SCENES

Since the oil embargo of October 1973 and the subsequent quadrupling of petroleum prices, the search for a "national direction" and the other very real problems that were by-products of the Japanese success story have been superceded by other matters of much more immediate concern.

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JAPANESE CAR
IN FOCUS

You are now watching a Japanese television commercial for a Japanese automobile - and you may very well be watching it on a Japanese television set. Many of the people who made the commercial, the automobile and the television set are probably out of a job.

MOVING JAPANESE
BULLET TRAIN

For by October 1974, the Japanese unemployment rate of less than one per cent had already

PASSENGERS INSIDE
TRAIN

grown to more than 3 per cent

Inflation had risen to 23 per cent, and

their much-respected Vice-Minister of

International Trade and Industry was predicting

an imminent full scale depression.

Japan's lesson: a very high standard of

living just as in the rest of the developed

world has brought her people to near zero

population growth. Japan's future: somehow

she will cope with her two major sets of

problems.

All of the environmental and social questions raised by industrialization and her almost

unique necessity to import virtually all of

her raw materials, rails and petroleum, and

at least, half of her food. In this period of

economic insufficiency, she may have some hard

times ahead.

China today is nearly self-sufficient. She has almost have all the raw materials she wants to make and the literate, healthy population to make them. She also have enough oil of his own to meet her own needs. As her standard of living is rising, the population is levelling off.

Many Indians literally mortgage away much of their expected life time earnings to pay for their wedding day... A sign of incurably human optimism. For even if her minimum needs programme were to be totally effective

WEDDING CEREMONY

today, it would take at least one healthy

well-fed generation with much reduced infant mortality for her people to see any scenes at

all in population planning. India's problems

are not unique. They are the reasons why

people of this part of the world are today

944 two-thirds of it and courting.

END TITLES

ASIA:

2/3 AND COUNTING

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