**India Population Key Facts**

**Population: 1.4 billion. (NZ Population: 4.3 million)**

**Population Density: 382 per sq km. (NZ Population Density: 14 per sq km)**

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| * India with its 1.4 billion people has over 17% of the world's population living in only 2% of the world's space. This makes India a very densely populated country. Although India has many large cities, less than 30% of the population live in cities. |
| * The caste system still controls India's society. A person's social level is determined by birth, such as rulers, merchants, artisans and servants. There are also many people who fall outside of the caste system. These outcasts have no social or economic role. Despite India's growing economy, its large population keeps most people below poverty levels. |
| * Over 80% of the Indian population are Hindu. Muslims represent about 10%, with other religions such as Buddhism and Christianity making up the rest. |

**India Cities Population**

Mumbai 18,410,000 million (Auckland 1.37 million)

Delhi 21,750,000 million (Christchurch 375,000)

Kolkata 4,500,000 million (Wellington 500,000)

Bangalore 8,426,000 (Dunedin 117,000)

Questions

1. What are the effects of the Caste system on India both socially and economically? List at least two each.
2. Calculate the number of people in India who live in cities (30 percent of 1.4 billion). Describe in detail the living conditions for the poorest.
3. Explain why so many people live along the Ganges river. What are the living conditions like for the farmers and rural workers?
4. Describe some of the solutions that have been tried in India to feed its people (research the Green Revolution on Wikipedia). Suggest other ways India could overcome problems it has with poverty.
5. India is set to overtake China as the world’s biggest population. What methods should be used to limit that growth?