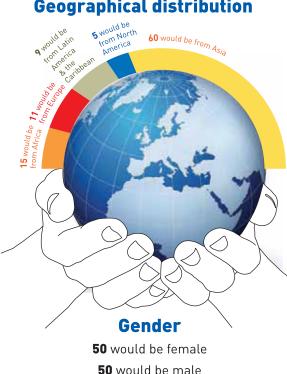
This edition of Data Card is inspired by the "If the world were 100 people" concept that the website www.100people.org came up with when the world population reached the sevenbillion mark. It is expected to cross nine billion by 2045. Can the planet take the strain?

Geographical distribution



The rising population raises issues of serious concern, especially for the marginalised sections living in poorer countries. While the richer nations have their own set of problems linked to industrialisation and supersaturated markets, emerging economies such as India, Brazil and South Africa have been unable or unwilling to spread the wealth generated over the past two decades or so equitably. The poor in several countries of Africa and Asia lead miserable lives. Several studies have shown that hundreds of millions of people in these countries have absolutely no access to food.

water and shelter, leave alone health care and education. The survival rates of women and children are way below the global average.

The Age of Man has wreaked havoc on the planet by plundering its resources and leaving vast swathes of land polluted and uncultivable. There is growing urbanisation, leading to a sharp rise in crowded living. This has made lives unsafe for the vulnerable sections, particularly women and children. The consequences of global warming are being felt even in remote

Literacy by gender



79 females would be able to read and write

21 females would not be able to read and write



88 males would be able to read and write 12 males would not be able

to read and write

Poverty



less than two dollars per day 1 out of 2

children would live in poverty

Infectious disease Food



<1% would



<1% would have tuberculosis

Religion







14 would be Hindu

124



7 would be **Buddhist**



have HIV/AIDS

believe in other religions

12 would not be religious or would not identify themselves as being aligned with a particular faith

Age group



would be 0 - 14



would be 15-64



would be 65 and older

First language

12 would speak Chinese

5 would speak Spanish

5 would speak English

3 would speak Arabic

3 would speak Hindi

3 would speak Bengali

2 would speak Russian

2 would speak Japanese

Education

62 would speak other

languages

3 would speak Portuguese

corners of the world. Yet, the consumption divide shows no signs of narrowing.

The world is also marked by increasing conflicts, with the theatres of war still being controlled by the imperialists of the past. Many countries would spend their precious resources on weapons rather than food. The wealth of the world continues to remain in very few hands, and with the sweep of the free market economy across the world, governments are geared to and sold on the ideology of neoliberalism, deregulation and massive privatisation of public wealth. In the process they sell the false hope that the benefits of rapid growth will trickle down to the poor. Sustainability is a word that has become popular in recent years. The planet has the ability to take the strain of the human population, but not when a small section of the population continues to plunder its wealth without paying a price.

Sanitation

65 would have improved sanitation

16 would have no toilets

19 would have

Overall

literacy

83 would be able

to read and write

17 would not

able to read and write

unimproved toilets

Drinking water

87 would have

access to safe drinking water

13 would use

unimproved water

Technology

75 would be

cellphone users

30 would be active

Internet users

22 would own or

share a computer



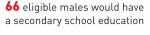
would have electricity



electricity

76 eligible males would have a primary school education **72** eligible females would have





63 eligible females would have a secondary school education

Electricity



would not have

Urban/Rural



51 would be

urban dwellers

125