

LIFE LINES OF NATIONAL ECONOMY

Political Science

Class-10

Importance of Transport and Communication

Role of transport:

- Connect the demand (producers) and supply (consumers) locales
- Speedy and efficient transport assures timely supply which is must for perishable items.
- Help in maintaining the balance between demand and supply to keep the market stable.
- Volume of national or international trade depends on a broad and efficient transport network in all the domains.

Board Questions:

1. Dense and efficient network of transport and communication is a prerequisite for national and international trade. Support the statement with four arguments. (2012, 14, 15)
2. "Efficient means of transport are prerequisites for the fast development". Explain your views in favour of this statement. (Delhi 2016)
3. Examine with examples the role of means of transport and communication in making our life prosperous and comfortable. (2017)

Role of communication:

- The world has come closer through fast and easier modes of communication through internet, radio, TV and telephone
- Market related information, Commercial transactions, banking, share market etc depend on quick means of communication that is internet.
- The newer modes of communication have replaced the physical presence by virtual presence.
- People remain in touch with happening around the world
- Communication help in transfer of technology

Roadways:

Importance of roadways (as an edge over railways):

- Construction and maintenance of roads is cheaper than railways
- Roads can be constructed in all types of diverse topography-hills, deserts, plateau etc.
- Roads can be built and spread to the height and slopes of the mountainous regions
- Provide door to door service and therefore cost of loading and unloading is low
- Roads also as feeder or links to connect with railway stations, airports and sea ports.
- Roadways are economical in transportation of a few persons and smaller amount of goods over shorter distance.
- Road transport is suitable for transporting perishable goods.

Board Questions:

1. "Roads still have an edge over railways in India". Support with arguments. (2015, 2016, 2017, 2019)
2. Why is road transport more useful than rail transport in India? Explain four reasons. (2009)

Problems faced by roadways

- Distribution of road is not uniform in the country
- Cities have dense network as density of roads is higher in cities
- Keeping in view the volume of traffic and passengers, the road network is inadequate
- About half of the roads are unmetalled. These roads become useless during rainy seasons
- The national Highways are inadequate too
- Most of the bridges and culverts are old and narrow
- Poor and regular maintenance of roads is also a big problem in India

Board Questions:

Describe any five major problems faced by road transport in India. (2013, 2016)

Classification of roads

1. On the basis of materials used

- Metalled roads -made of cement, concrete or bitumen of coal.
- Unmetalled roads – become useless during rainy season

2. On the basis of capacity: (6 types of roads)

I. Golden Quadrilateral Super Highways:

This project comprises following super highways implemented by NHAI.

- Golden Quadrilateral: six lane highways linking Delhi - Kolkata- Chennai- Mumbai and Delhi.
- The North-south Corridors: linking Srinagar (J&K) and Kanyakumari.
- East-West Corridors: linking Silchar (Assam) and Porbandar (Gujarat)

Board Questions:

Classify the roads according to their capacity and describe the role of each. (2012)

Explain any three features of 'Golden Quadrilateral' Super Highways. (2017)

II. National Highways- Primary road system connecting extreme parts of India. these roads are laid and maintained by CPWD.

III. State Highways – Link capita with district headquarters. Constructed and maintained by PWD.

IV. District Roads- Connect district headquarters with other parts of district. Maintained by Zila Parishad.

Board Questions:

Explain any two features of district roads. (2015)

V. Other Roads- These comprise rural roads connecting towns and remote village areas. Pradhan Mantri Grameen Sadak Yozna is trying to link villages with major towns by metalled roads.

VI. Boarder Roads- BRO (Boarder Road Organisation) established in 1960 constructs and maintains boarder roads. These roads have improved accessibility in the difficult terrains of the region. BRO also makes roads of strategic importance in Northern and North Eastern Areas.

Board Questions:

What is the significance of Border Roads? Explain. (2016)

Density of Roads: The length of road per 1000 sq. Km is known as density of road. It is not uniform. In Jammu and Kashmir, it is 12.4 km and 517.77 km in Kerala.

Road transport and railways are complementary to each other

- Where railways can not reach roadways come in to help movement of people and goods.
- Roads are good for shorter distance and railways for longer journeys.
- Railways as freight carrier can carry bulky and large amount of goods where as smaller amount and perishable goods can be carried by road transport
- Road transport load and load at any place but railways can do it at stations only
- Roads provide door to door service and links railway stations.

Board Questions:

"Road transport in India is not competitive but complementary to railways." Justify the statement by giving four points. (2015)

Railways**Importance**

- It is principal mode of transportation for freight and passengers. It is cheaper than road transport for longer journeys and ideal for bulk and general cargo.
- Conduct multifarious activities like- business, sightseeing, pilgrimage along with transport of goods
- Acts as an integrating force- connecting parts of India, carrying people from different social and economic strata.
- Binds the economic life of a country. Accelerates the development of industry and agriculture.
- A broad railway network connects mineral zones and Industrial centres.
- Brings raw materials, fuel and labour to industries and carry Industrial products to different locations for trading and consumption purposes

Board Questions:

Elaborate any three advantages of railways in India. (2016)

Problems faced by railways

- Travelling without ticket causes economic loss
- Pulling of chains caused delay
- Theft and damaging of railway property
- Old signalling and safety standards
- Lack of proper maintenance and upgrading of railway tracks.
- Littering of coaches and cleanliness issues
- Overcrowding due to heavy load on railways
- No uniform gauge system

Improvements made by the Indian railway

- Electrification of railway lines to reduce burden on Fossil fuels
- Conversion of metre gauge lines to broad gauge for speed and capacity of trains.
- Construction of new railway lines to broaden the network
- Computerisation of ticketing system providing online facilities.
- Plan for bullet-train projects.
- Solar trains being introduced

Distribution pattern of railway network (influenced by different physiographic, and economic factors)

Favourable Northern plain regions

The northern plains have vast level land to lay railway tracks. Rich agricultural resources and high population density prove favourable for the growth of railways

Rivers create problems in laying down of railway tracks because they require construction of bridges across the wide beds of rivers.

Non-favourable areas

- **Hilly areas** -In the hilly terrains of the peninsular region, railway tracks are laid through low hills, gaps or tunnels.
- **The Himalayan mountains regions**- too are unfavourable for the construction of railways due to high relief, sparse population and lack of economic opportunities
- **Desert, swamps and forest areas**- Unfavourable conditions to railway also prevail in sandy plain of western Rajasthan, swamps of Gujarat, forested tracks of Madhya Pradesh, Chhattisgarh, Odisha and Jharkhand.
- Sahyadri stretch could be crossed only through gaps of passes.
- **Konkan Railway**- has facilitated the movement of passengers and goods along the west coast.

Board Questions:

Analyse the physiographic and economic administrative factors that have influenced the distribution pattern of the railway network in our country. (2015)

Besides the above physiographic factors, economic factors like govt funding, Industrial centres and economic viability of projects also matter.

Administrative factors like proper implementation, monitoring and execution of projects, security and safety standards also play their own role in the development and upkeep of railways.

Pipelines: (a new arrival on the transportation map of India)

Advantages of pipelines

- Pipelines are used for transporting petroleum products and natural gas from oil and natural gas fields. Solid are also transportable in the form of slurry.
- Initial costs are high but after that it is a cheap means of transport in inaccessible areas, dense forests, deserts, high mountains and even under water.
- It is fast, safe, clean and continuous
- There are no Trans-Siberian losses.
- Without delay it assures continuous supply of energy to industries

Demerits of pipelines

- Initial costs of laying pipelines are very high as they pass from underground also.
- Leakages in pipes or any other damage becomes a big problem to detect and also contamination of soil, water takes place

Board Questions:

1.State three points regarding the importance of pipelines in transportation. (2005, 10)

2. Two merits and demerits of pipeline transport. (2016)

3 Major Pipelines

1. **Upper Assam to Kanpur:** via Guahati, Barauni, Allhabad

Branches- 1 Barauni to Haldia

2 Guahati to Siliguri

2. **Salaya (Gujarat) to Jalandhar (Punjab):** via Viramgam, Mathura, Sonipat

Branches- 1. Connecting to Loyalist (Gujarat)

2.Chaksu (Rajasthan)

3. **HVJ gas pipeline:** from Hazira- (Gujarat) to Jagdishpur (UP) via Vijaipur (Madhya Pradesh)

Branches- to Kota, Shahjahanpur, Babrala and some other places

Airways

Importance of air transport:

- I. Fastest and most comfortable mode of transport
- II. Can easily cover difficult terrains like of earth like high mountains, deserts, forests and long oceanic stretches.
- III. During calamities air services provide Can access remote and far flung areas. Timely supply of relief and medical assistance in times of disaster prove the utility of air services.
- IV. Fast transport of goods especially the perishable ones.
- V. In India air transport is most preferred in North Eastern States.

Demerits of Air transport

- 1.air services are costly and not within the reach of common people
- 2.Need landing pad or tracks to land
- 3.Deadlycaught with accident

Importance of air transport in North Eastern states of India.

The following reasons make air transport he most preferred means of transport for the people of North Eastern India.

- The North Eastern region is marked with the presence of big rivers, dissected relief, dense forest, and frequent floods.
- The areas where roadways and railways are not available, air transport is the only means of transport for people as well as goods
- North Eastern region also runs international border which makes this area of strategic importance
- During calamities air service can access remote and far flung areas to provide timely relief.
- Because of the above reasons there are specific provisions for the people of North Eastern states to extend the air services to the common people of these states.

Board Questions:

1. Why is air transport an important means of transport in the north-eastern part of our country? Explain any four reasons. (2009,11, 13, 2017)

2. Explain any four merits and demerits of air transport. (2012,16)

Air service providers

- i. ***Indian Airlines*** (govt.): provides domestic air service and service to a few neighbouring countries
- ii. ***Alliance Air*** (govt.): a subsidiary of Indian Airlines
- iii. ***Air India*** (govt.): provides international air services
- iv. ***Pawan Hans Helicopters*** (Private scheduled and non-scheduled domestic air service providers): provides services to offshore operations of ONGC. Also provide services in difficult terrains of Northern eastern states, J&K, Himachal Pradesh, Uttarakhand

Major Airports

- i. ***Raja Sansi*** - Amritsar
- ii. ***Indira Gandhi international*** - Del
- iii. ***Chhatrapati Shivaji*** - Mumbai
- iv. ***Nedimbacherry*** - Thiruvananthapuram
- v. ***Meenakshi Bakkam*** - Chennai
- vi. ***Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose*** - Kolkata
- vii. ***Rajiv Gandhi*** - Hyderabad

National Waterways of India***Importance:***

- i. Water ways are the cheapest means of transport
- ii. They are most suitable for carrying heavy and bulky goods
- iii. It is fuel efficient and environment friendly mode of transport
- iv. India also has inland waterways of 1450 Km in length

Board Questions:

1.Explain any three features of waterways in India. (2015)

2.Name the National Waterways of India. (2005, 09)

3.Mention any two inland waterways of India. Write three characteristics of each. (2011)

The National Waterways of India

N.W. NO. 1 (1620 Km): Allhabad to Haldia on the Ganga river

N.W. NO. 2 (891Km): Sadiya to Dhubri on Brahmaputra river

N.W. NO. 3 (205Km): West coast canal in Kerala (Kottapuram- Kollan, Uddagmandal and Chamkara canals)

N.W. NO. 4 (1078Km): Parts of Godavari and Krishna rivers along with Kakinada Puducherry stretch of canals

N.W. NO. 5 (558K Km): Parts of Brahmaputra river along with Matai river, delta channels of Mahanadi and Brahmani rivers and East-Coast Canal.

Major Sea ports of India

Coastline of India- 7516.6 Km

12 major ports and 187 minor ports

I. Western-Coast Port

Kandla Port

- Located in Kachchh region
- First port developed after independence
- After the loss Karachi port to Pakistan It was established to ease volume of trade on the Mumbai port
- It is a tidal port
- It covers the Industrial belt- J &K, Haryana, Punjab, Himachal Pradesh, Rajasthan and Gujarat
- Export and import of highly productive granary and Industrial products.

Mumbai Port

- Largest port of India
- spacious and well sheltered harbour
- Jawaharlal Lal Nehru port established to decongest Mumbai port

Marmagao Port

- It is located in Goa
- The premier iron ore exporting port of the country
- Handles 50%of iron export of India

New Mangalore Port

- Located in Karnataka
- Exports iron ore concentrates from Kudremukh Mines in Karnataka

Kochchi Port

- Extreme south -western port of India
- It is natural harbour also
- located at the entrance of lagoon

II. Eastern Coast port

Tuticorin Port:

- Located in Tamil Nadu
- The extreme South Eastern port of India
- Has a natural harbour also
- Has rich hinterland
- Handles large varieties of cargoes even to Sri Lanka, Maldives

Chennai Port

- One of the oldest artificial port
- Ranks second after Mumbai in terms of volume of trade and cargo

Vishakhapatnam Port

- Deepest, landlocked and well protected port

Paradwip Port

- Located in Odisha
- Specialises in the export of Iron

Kolkata Port

- It is an inland riverine port
- It is a tidal port
- Serves a very large hinterland of Ganga Brahmaputra basin
- It requires constant dredging of Hoogly

Ports meant to decongest other ports

- Jawaharlal Nehru Port to decongest Mumbai port
- Haldia to decongest Kolkata port

Communication

Mass communication has become very strong and deeper in this era of electronic media and internet services. Now communication plays a vital role in the dissemination of information in quickest time.

- A powerful medium of entertainment, information, education
- It creates awareness among people about various national programmes and policies
- Broadcast a variety of entertainment, educational and sports programmes for different categories of people
- Important source of information and news during calamities and disasters.
- In this era of internet has brought the world together helping in globalisation.

Radio

- Broadcast a variety of programs in different languages
- Has deepest reaches to remotest part of India
- AIR provides covers to 98% of population

Door darshan

- National TV channel of India
- One of the largest terrestrial networks in the world
- Broadcast variety of programs

Print media-Newspapers are published in about 100 languages and dialects and most of them are in Hindi.

Cinema- India is the largest producers of feature films. The Central Board of Film Certification certifies that India and foreign films.

Mail System in India

- (i) **First Class Mails:** cards, parcel, envelopes and personal written letters. These are carried over land and air
- (ii) **Second Class Mails:** Books, packets, registered newspapers, and periodicals. These are carried via surface mail
- (iii) **Mail Channels:** For quick delivery six mail Channels-have been set up
 1. Rajdhani Channel
 2. Metro Channel
 3. Green Channel
 4. Business Channel
 5. Bulk Mail Channel
 6. Periodical Channel

International Trade

- Trade between two countries is called international trade. *Export and import* are the two components of International trade.
- **Favourable balance of trade** when exports are greater than imports (export > imports).
- **Unfavourable balance of trade** when imports exceed exports (imports > export).
- India's status in international trade is shown through its major exports and imports given below:

Board Questions:

What is trade? Explain the importance of international trade. (Delhi 2016)

Commodities exported (Year-2011)	Commodities imported (Year-2011)
1) Agriculture and allied products – (9.9%)	1) Petroleum and petroleum products- (28.6%)
2) Ores and minerals – (4%)	2) Pearls and precious stones - (9.4%)
3) Gems and jewellery – (14.7%)	3) Chemicals – (5.7%)
4) Petroleum products (including coal) (16.8%)	4) Coal, cokes and briquettes – (2.7%)
5) Export of Information and technology	5) Machines – (6.4%)
	6) Bulk imports – fertilizers, cereals, edible oils, newsprint etc

International Trade is the barometer and index of economic prosperity of a country

- i. Resources are space bound that makes countries interdependent and therefore no country can survive without international trade to fulfil the needs of the country.
- ii. A strong economy is measured by more and more exports earn valuable foreign exchange to pay for the imports.
- iii. International trade has changed with time and exchange of commodities and goods have been superseded by the exchange of information and knowledge.
- iv. India has emerged as a software giant and export of information and technology brings large foreign exchange in India.
- v. A favourable balance of trade and international good value of national currency are the mark of economic prosperity of a country.

Board Questions:

“The advancement of international trade of a country is an index of its economic development.” Justify the statement. (2011, 14, 2017)

Tourism as a Trade

- i. India has vast potential for tourism and it need to be expanded in all parts of India.
- ii. Substantial growth in tourist sector in the last 3 decades is shaping it as an industry as it generates huge income.
- iii. 15 million people are directly engaged in tourist sector.
- iv. Over 2.6 million foreign tourists visit India every year for eco-tourism, adventure-tourism, cultural-tourism, medical-tourism and business tourism.
- v. It contributed around 64.889 crores as foreign exchange in 2010.
- vi. Tourism industry also provides support to local handicrafts.
- vii. Tourism also promotes national integration and helps in development of international understanding of Indian culture and heritage.

Board Questions:

“Tourism industry in India has grown substantially over the last three decades”. Support the statement. (2017)

Define the term tourism. Why is tourism known as trade? Explain. (2016)

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