

LIFELINES OF NATIONAL ECONOMY

SHORT ANSWER TYPE QUESTION [3 MARKS]

1. **Explain the importance of railways as the principal mode of transportation for freight and passengers in India.**

Answer:

Railways are the principal mode of transportation for freight and passengers in India in the following ways.

- Railways have contributed to the development of multifarious activities like business, sightseeing, pilgrimage and tourism along with the transportation of goods over long distance.
- It is an important means of transport for long distance travel with ease.
- It has binded the economic life of the country that has accelerated the development of agriculture and industry by carrying the raw materials to the industries and distribution of finished goods to the consuming markets.

2. **Describe any three features of waterways in India.**

Answer:

The three features of waterways are as follows.

- They are the cheapest means of transport for carrying heavy and bulky goods.
- They are fuel efficient.
- They are an eco-friendly mode of transport, however the slowest means of transport.

3. **Describe the significance of tourism as a trade in India.**

Answer:

Tourism means an activity of visiting places, especially in foreign countries for pleasure.

Tourism is known as a trade because of the following reasons.

- Foreign tourist's arrivals have increased over the years. 5.78 million foreign tourists visited India in 2010. It contributed Rs. 64,889 crores as foreign exchange in the year 2010.
- More than 15 million people are directly engaged in tourism industry.
- It helps in the development of Indian handicrafts and other economic activities.
- Foreign tourist visits India for business tourism, adventure tourism, medical tourism, eco tourism, heritage tourism, etc.

4. **Mention the six mail channels introduced recently to facilitate quick delivery of mails.**

Answer:

The following are the six mail channels.

- Rajdhani Channel
- Metro Channel
- Green Channel
- Business Channel
- Bulk Mail Channel
- Periodical Channel

5. **Give reasons for which foreign tourists visit India.**

Answer:

Foreign tourists visit India due to the following reasons.

- India has been an excellent place for heritage tourism. It is rich in culture and ethnicity.
- Many tourists come here for adventure in the mountainous regions of Himachal Pradesh, Uttrakhand, etc.
- Southern India provides excellent opportunities for medical tourism, which attracts tourists from the world.

6. **Why is the distribution of roads not uniform in India? Explain with examples.**

Answer:

The distribution of roads is not uniform in India because of the following reasons.

- India has vast and diverse relief features with high mountains and plateaus which restrict construction of roads in many areas.
- India is a land of rivers with dissected tributaries. It is not possible to lay roads in these areas where the rivers often create havoc during floods.
- Keeping in view the low volume of passengers and traffic, it is not economical to lay roads in such areas.

7. **How does transport play an important role in the economic development of a country? Explain with examples.**

Answer:

Efficient means of transport are pre-requisites for fast development because:

- the movement of goods and services from the supply location to demand locations necessitates the need for transport. It widens the market for goods.
- it allows distant and remote areas to be linked with urban and developed regions.
- the development and improvement of transport have made delivery of goods faster across long distances and thus reduced cost.
- immediate relief during war, natural calamity, famine or flood can be easily accessed through efficient means of transport.

8. **How are the means of transport and communication complementary to each other? Explain with three examples.**

Answer:

Means of transport and communication are complementary to each other in the following ways:

- Transport and communication provide basic infrastructure for each other to carry on their process.
- They create possibilities for investment to upgrade and expand their services.
- Communication has widened the horizons of trade far and wide.
- Transport had limited access earlier. With the advancement of science and technology the world has converted into a large village. Communication has widened the scope of transportation even in the remote areas.

9. **'The distribution pattern of Indian railway network is influenced by the physiographic factors.' Examine the statement.**

Answer:

The distribution of railway network depends upon physiographic, economic and administrative factors. The following are the conditions responsible for uneven distribution pattern of the railway network in India.

- The northern plains have dense network of railways due to extensive level land, agriculturally and industrially productive region and support high density of population which is favourable for the development of railways. However, the presence of large number of rivers requires the construction of bridges across the rivers which poses some difficulties.
- In the hilly regions of the north and the peninsular plateau regions, railways are constructed through narrow gaps, or tunnels.
- The Himalayas region has less network of railways due to rugged terrain, sparse population and lack of economic opportunities.
- In the sandy plains of western Rajasthan, swampy regions of Gujarat, thickly forested regions of Madhya Pradesh, Chhattisgarh and Jharkhand, construction of railways is difficult and expensive.

- Recently, the development of Konkan railway along the western coast has contributed to the movement of goods and passengers through the passes and gaps along the Western Ghats to link the most economic region of India.

10. Why is air travel preferred in the north-eastern states of India? Explain any three reasons.

Answer:

Air travel is more popular in the north-eastern states of India because of the following reasons.

- North eastern part of the country is marked with the presence of big rivers where other means of transport cannot be laid.
- It is marked with dissected relief that makes it impossible to access the area through other means of transport other than air.
- The entire area is covered with dense forest that resists land movement.
- This area is often hit by frequent floods. Air travel is thus required.
- It has a long international frontier that requires quick response which is possible only through air transport.

11. How can you help the Indian Railways to run the trains as per schedule? Explain.

Answer:

We can help the Indian Railways to run the trains as per schedule by:

- keeping the trains tracks clean, clear and well maintained.
- avoiding the pulling of chains for unnecessary reasons.
- avoiding the damage done to the railway property.

12. Describe any five major problems faced by road transport in India

Answer:

Major problems faced by road transport are:

- In terms of volume of traffic and passengers, the road network is inadequate.
- About half of the roads are unmetalled and get damaged during the rainy season.
- The number of National Highways is inadequate and are poorly maintained.
- The roads are congested in cities and are lacking safety measures.
- Most of the bridges and culverts are old and narrow.

13. Advancement of international trade of a country is an index of its economic prosperity.' Justify the statement with five arguments

Answer:

Advancement of international trade of a country is an index of its economic prosperity. The following points can justify the statement.

- No country can survive without international trade because resources are space bound.
- Advancement of international trade of a country leads to its economic prosperity because such a trade provides so many jobs to workers as well as business to traders.
- It is through international trade that we earn much of our foreign exchange which is required for importing many essential goods.
- Foreign trade helps in transfer of technology.
- International trade gives rise to competition. Domestic producers make their production process efficient to meet the international standards and thus, are able to compete.

14. What are the means of communication? How do they create awareness among the masses and integrate the people? Explain with four examples.

Answer:

Communication refers to conveying of messages and ideas between individuals or to the masses. The means of mass communication are radio, television, media and films.

They create awareness among the mass and integrated the people in the following ways.

- Every day at regular intervals, we hear or watch the news on the radio and television. News are given on variety of subjects and topics and people come to know what is happening in the society, politics and economy.
- Newspaper also gives news on variety of subjects like politics, society, financial, sports and international. The news are given in details (of the day before). They also carry advertisements.
- India is the largest producer of feature films in the world. It produces short films, feature films and video short films.
- Means of communication also integrate the people. If we see about any unforeseen calamity on the television or read about it in the newspaper, the country stands united to help the victims.

15. How is road transport more advantageous than other means of transport for short distances? Explain with five suitable examples.

Answer:

- Road transport is economical in transportation of few people and smaller amount of goods. It reduces cost.
- Road transport do not need a station or a port (sea port and air port). It can cover short distances easily and quickly.
- There are a large variety of vehicles on the roads, carrying one, two or more than sixty persons. They can negotiate traffic jams.
- They provide door to door service.
- Road transport like rickshaws, bicycles, autos and scooters can negotiate the narrow and congested lanes and by-lanes and carry people and goods.

16. Explain the improvements made by the Indian railways in its functioning.

Answer:

Improvements made by Indian railways in its functioning are:

- Construction of new railway lines and extension of additional routes along certain routes.
- Electrification of railway network.
- Introduction of super fast trains like Shatabadi, Rajdhani, etc.
- Computerised reservation of booking and cancellation of tickets.

17. Explain three reasons for dense railway network in the North Indian plains.

Answer:

North Indian Plains have a dense network of railway because of the following reasons.

- Vast level land that is topographically suitable for laying railway lines.
- High population density makes it economical to operate.
- Rich agricultural resources in the plains require network of railways to sustain economy.

18. “Advancement of international trade of a country is an index to its economic prosperity.” Support the statement with three arguments.

Answer:

Advancement of international trade of a country is an index of its economic prosperity. The following points can justify the statement.

- No country can survive without international trade because resources are space bound.
- Advancement of international trade of a country leads to its economic prosperity because such a trade provides so many jobs to workers as well as business to traders.
- It is through international trade that we earn much of our foreign exchange which is required for importing many essential goods.
- Foreign trade helps in transfer of technology.
- International trade gives rise to competition. Domestic producers make their production process efficient to meet the international standards and thus, are able to compete.

19. **Mention any two inland waterways of India. Write three characteristics of each.**

Answer:

The two inland waterways of India are:

- The Brahmaputra River between Sadiya and Dhubri.
- The West-Coast Canal in Kerala

The characteristics of Brahmaputra River between Sadiya and Dhubri are:

- The waterway is 891 km long on river Brahmaputra.
- Long cruise tourist vessels make voyages between Sivsagar near Dibrugarh and Manas wildlife sanctuary near Jogighopa continuously. Thus, making it a commercially beneficial proposition.
- Border security force deployed on this inland prove to be an important base for defence of the country.

The characteristics of West-Coast Canal in Kerala are:

- The stretch is 205 km long of the canals of Kerala. .
- The waterway provides 24 hours navigation facility in the entire stretch.
- The backwaters of Kerala prove to be cheap means of transport attracting tourists.

20. **How has the distribution pattern of the Railway network in the country been largely influenced by physiographic and economic factors? Explain with examples**

Answer:

The distribution of railway network depends upon physiographic, economic and administrative factors. The following are the conditions responsible for uneven distribution pattern of the railway network in India.

- The northern plains have dense network of railways due to extensive level land, agriculturally and industrially productive region and support high density of population which is favourable for the development of railways. However, the presence of large number of rivers requires the construction of bridges across the rivers which poses some difficulties.
- In the hilly regions of the north and the peninsular plateau regions, railways are constructed through narrow gaps, or tunnels.
- The Himalayas region has less network of railways due to rugged terrain, sparse population and lack of economic opportunities.
- In the sandy plains of western Rajasthan, swampy regions of Gujarat, thickly forested regions of Madhya Pradesh, Chhattisgarh and Jharkhand, construction of railways is difficult and expensive.
- Recently, the development of Konkan railway along the western coast has contributed to the movement of goods and passengers through the passes and gaps along the Western Ghats to link the most economic region of India.

21. **Write any four characteristics of Kandla sea port.**

Answer:

The following are the characteristics of the Kandla sea port:

- It is a tidal port.
- It was the first port developed soon after the Independence of India in Kuchchh.
- It was developed to ease the volume of trade from Mumbai port after the loss of Karachi port to Pakistan after the Partition in 1947.
- It caters to the convenient handling of imports and exports of granary and industrial belt spreading from states like Jammu and Kashmir, Himachal Pradesh, Punjab, Haryana, Rajasthan and Gujarat.

22. **Explain any four merits of pipeline transport in India.**

Answer:

The following are the merits of pipeline transport in India:

- Solids (when converted into slurry), liquids and gases can be transported through pipelines.
- Initial cost of laying pipelines is high but subsequent running costs are minimal.
- Trans-shipment of losses and delays are ruled out.
- It is economical to transport petroleum, natural gas, fertilizers to interior places of the country.

23. What is the meaning of road density? Describe any three major problems faced by road transportation in India.

Answer:

Major problems faced by road transport are:

- In terms of volume of traffic and passengers, the road network is inadequate.
- About half of the roads are unmetalled and get damaged during the rainy season.
- The number of National Highways is inadequate and are poorly maintained.
- The roads are congested in cities and are lacking safety measures.
- Most of the bridges and culverts are old and narrow.

24. What is the importance of railway transport? Describe any three major problems faced by Indian Railways.

Answer:

The following are the major problems faced by the Indian Railways:

- Passengers travel without ticket.
- Thefts and damages of railways property.
- Unnecessary chain pulling by the passengers cause delays.

25. Describe any four features of Indian tourism as a trade.

Answer:

Following are the features of Indian tourism as a trade:

- Tourism in India has grown substantially over the last three decades with the bumper increase in foreign tourists.
- It provides employment and financial support to local handicrafts and cultural pursuits.
- India has become a popular destination for heritage, adventure, medical and business tourism.
- Indian tourism has achieved the status of maximum foreign exchange

LONG ANSWER TYPE QUESTIONS [5 MARKS]

26. How do means of transport and communication play an important role in the economic development of the country? Explain.

Answer:

Dense and efficient network of transport and communication is a pre-requisite for the development of local, national and global trade of today because of the following reasons.

- We use different material and services in our daily life. Some of these are available in our immediate surroundings while other requirements are met by bringing things from other places. Movement of these goods and services can be over three domains of earth.
- Today the world has converted into a large village with the help of efficient and fast-moving transport.
- Transport has been able to achieve this with the help of equally developed communication system.
- Therefore transport, communication and trade are complementary to each other.
- Today, India is well linked with rest of the world despite its vast size diversity, linguistic and socio-cultural plurality.

27. 'Roadways still have an edge over railways in India.' Support the statement with arguments.

Answer:

Roadways still have an edge over railways in India in the following ways.

- Roads are cheaper than railways and are easier to construct and maintain.
- Roads provide door-to-door service, therefore the cost of loading and unloading is much less.
- Road transport is used as a feeder to other means of transport, i.e. it is a link between railway stations, airports and seaports.
- Roads can traverse more dissected and undulating topography.
- It can negotiate higher gradients of slopes and can traverse mountains.
- Roads are economical in transporting few number of people and smaller amount of goods over short distances.

28. Classify communication services into two categories. Explain main features of each.**Answer:**

Communication services can be classified into two categories—personal communication and mass communication.

Main features of personal communication:

- It is the communication between person to person. In this communication, only personal messages are exchanged.
- Personal communication is done through mobile phones, letters, e-mails, post cards, etc.

Main features of mass communication:

- It is the communication among masses. It provides entertainment as well as awareness about various national programmes.
- Mass communication is done through radio, television, newspapers, magazines, books, films, etc.

29. Define the term tourism. Why is tourism known as a trade? Explain**Answer:**

Tourism means an activity of visiting places, especially in foreign countries for pleasure.

Tourism is known as a trade because of the following reasons.

- Foreign tourist's arrivals have increased over the years. 5.78 million foreign tourists visited India in 2010. It contributed ₹ 64,889 crores as foreign exchange in the year 2010.
- More than 15 million people are directly engaged in tourism industry.
- It helps in the development of Indian handicrafts and other economic activities.
- Foreign tourist visits India for business tourism, adventure tourism, medical tourism, eco tourism, heritage tourism, etc.

30. Explain any five major problems faced by road transport in India**Answer:**

The major problems faced by road transport in India are as follows.

- The road network is inadequate when volume of traffic and passengers are taken into consideration.
- Nearly half of the roads are unmetalled and it limits their usage during the rainy season.
- Roadways are highly congested in the cities, with frequent traffic jams.
- Most of the bridges and culverts are old and narrow.
- The national highways are inadequate too.

31. Why is a dense and efficient network of transport and communication a prerequisite for the development of local, national and global trade of today? Give your opinion.**Answer:**

Dense and efficient network of transport and communication is a pre-requisite for the development of local, national and global trade of today because of the following reasons.

- We use different material and services in our daily life. Some of these are available in our immediate surroundings while other requirements are met by bringing things from other places. Movement of these goods and services can be over three domains of earth.
- Today the world has converted into a large village with the help of efficient and fast-moving transport.
- Transport has been able to achieve this with the help of equally developed communication system.
- Therefore transport, communication and trade are complementary to each other.
- Today, India is well linked with rest of the world despite its vast size diversity, linguistic and socio-cultural plurality.

32. **‘Road transport and rail transport in India are not competitive but complementary to each other.’ Justify the statement.**

Answer:

The statement road transport and rail transport in India are not competitive but complementary to each other can be justified in the following ways.

- Road transport is more suitable for short distances whereas rail transport is more suitable for long distances.
- Road transport is economical in transportation of few persons and relatively smaller amount of goods over short distances whereas rail transport is more suitable for large number of people and heavy goods.
- Road transport is beneficial for perishable goods to be carried by roads in short period of time whereas non-perishable and bulky are transported by railways for a longer distances.
- Road transport increases the efficiency of railways.
- Road transport links the rural areas with railway stations.
- The deficiency of railways is compensated by road transport.

33. **‘Advancement of international trade of a country is an index to its prosperity.’ Support the statement with suitable examples.**

Answer:

Advancement of international trade of a country is an index of its economic prosperity. The following points can justify the statement.

- No country can survive without international trade because resources are space bound.
- Advancement of international trade of a country leads to its economic prosperity because such a trade provides so many jobs to workers as well as business to traders.
- It is through international trade that we earn much of our foreign exchange which is required for importing many essential goods.
Foreign trade helps in transfer of technology.
- International trade gives rise to competition. Domestic producers make their production process efficient to meet the international standards and thus, are able to compete.

34. **‘Indian railways binds the economic life of the country as well as accelerates the development of industry and agriculture.’ Justify the statement.**

Answer:

They are principal mode of transportation for freight and passengers. They help in multifarious ways like business, sightseeing, along with transportation of goods over long distances.

- Economic development of a region depends upon the dense network of rail transport.
- They link areas of production with that of consumption, agriculture with industry and village with towns and cities.
- They help in industrial development by assemblage of raw materials and distribution of finished goods.
- They help in regional development.

- Railways help in the development of all the three sectors of the economy— primary, secondary and tertiary.

35. Mention any four merits and any two demerits of air transport

Answer:

Merits of air transport are:

- Most comfortable
- Fastest means of transport
- Covers long stretches of mountains, deserts, thick forests and oceanic stretches with great ease.
- Helicopters can land and take off from any place.

Demerits of air transport are:

- Very expensive
- It is often affected by weather phenomenon like fog and strong currents in upper atmosphere.

MAP QUESTIONS

➤ **On the given map of India locate and label the following with appropriate symbols:**

- (i) Tuticorin-Major seaport
- (ii) Kochi-Major seaport
- (iii) Kandla-Major seaport
- (iv) Raja Sansi International airport or Amritsar International Airport
- (v) New Mangalore-Major seaport
- (vi) Paradip-Seaport
- (vii) Vishakhapatnam-Major seaport
- (viii) Chennai/Madras

➤ **Some features are marked on the given political map of India, with the help of following information and write their correct lines marked in the maps.**

- (i) Terminal station of North-South Corridor
- (ii) Terminal station of East-West Corridor
- (iii) The terminal station of North-South Corridor
- (iv) Terminal station of East-West Corridor
- (v) Terminal station of NH7
- (vi) Terminal station of NH7
- (vii) International Airport
- (viii) Major seaport
- (ix) Terminal station of NH7
- (x) Terminal station of NH1