

Lifelines of National Economy

Check Point 01

Q. 1. Which organisation is responsible for implementation of the Golden Quadrilateral Highway project?

Answer: The Indian government launched a project to connect Delhi-Kolkata-Chennai-Mumbai by six-lane superhighways. The objective behind the making of these superhighways is to reduce the time and distance between the megacities of India. This project of superhighways is being implemented by the National Highway Authority of India (NHAI).

Q. 2. National Highway-2 (NH-2) connects which two places?

Answer: NH-2 is now numbered as NH-19. It connects Delhi and Kolkata, also connecting major cities such as Faridabad, Mathura, Agra, Kanpur, Allahabad, Varanasi, Dhanbad and Asansol.

Q. 3. Border road organisation (BRO) was established in which year?

Answer: Border Roads Organisation is an undertaking of Government of India which constructs and maintains the roads in the bordering areas of the country. It was established in 1960 for the development of roads in terms of strategic importance.

Q. 4. Into how many zones is Indian Railway divided?

Answer: Railways are one of the principal modes of transport in India. They take the largest public undertaking in the country. Indian railways are now divided into 16 zones.

Q. 5. Railway in India has been in existence from which year?

Answer: The first train ran from Mumbai to Thane in 1853 covering a distance of 34 km. Indian railway runs on multiple Gauge operations which include 1) Broad gauge 2) Narrow gauge and 3) Metre gauge.

Check Point 02

Q. 1. List the products that are transported through pipelines.

Answer: This is a new mode of transport. Pipelines were used in the past to send water to cities and industries. Nowadays crude oil, petroleum products and natural gas are also sent from oil and natural gas fields to refineries, fertilizer factories and big thermal power plants.

Q. 2. Which is the cheapest means of transport?

Answer: Waterways are known to be the cheapest means of transport in India. It is fuel- efficient and environment-friendly. Waterways make it easy to carry heavy and bulky goods.

Q. 3. How much is the length of the navigable inland waterway in India?

Answer: India has an inland navigation waterway of 14,500 km in length, out of which 5685 km is navigable by machined vessels. Inland water transport is an economical.

Q. 4. Which is the riverine port of India?

Answer: Kolkata is an inland riverine port, and it serves the large land of Ganga-Brahmaputra basin. As it is a tidal port, it requires constant dredging of Hooghly.

Q. 5. Air transport was nationalised in which year?

Answer: Air transport is one the fastest and comfortable mode of transport today. It was difficult to reach the north-eastern parts of the country due to dense forests and big rivers; air travel helped to reach these places easier. Air transport was nationalised in the year 1953.

Check Point 03

Q. 1. Enlist various channels to introduce by Department of the post for quick delivery of mails.

Answer: Indian postal network is the largest in the world. In order to deliver mails quickly to cities and large towns, six mail channels have been introduced recently. They are:

- 1) Rajdhani channel
- 2) Metro channel
- 3) Green channel
- 4) Business channel
- 5) Bulk mail channel
- 6) Periodical channel

Q. 2. Which is the national television channel of India?

Answer: Doordarshan is the national television channel of India. It is one of the largest terrestrial networks in the world. It broadcasts various types of programs which include a program for entertainment, educational purpose, program for sports etc.

Q. 3. Name the authority that certifies films in India?

Answer: India is the largest producer of feature films in the world. Short films, video feature films and video short films are the various categories of films produced. The Central Board of Film certification certifies both Indian and foreign films in India.

Q. 4. What are the components of trade?

Answer: Export and import are the components of trade. Difference between export and import gives the trade balance of a country. Exports greater than imports result in a positive balance of trade and vice versa.

Q. 5. Which states form an important destination for foreign tourist in India?

Answer: Some of the important states that form an important destination in India are:

- a) Delhi
- b) Rajasthan
- c) Kerala
- d) Gujrat
- e) Assam

They are most famous for historical monuments, forts, mountains, rivers, etc.

Self Assessment

Q. 1. Which is the Northernmost terminal of the north-south corridor?

Answer: A project launched by the Indian government to link the major cities by six-lane superhighways. The north-south corridor link Jammu and Kashmir (Srinagar) and Tamil Nadu (Kanyakumari).

Q. 2. How will you define the riverine port?

Answer: Port located on the riverfront is known as a riverine port. Kolkata is an inland riverine port. It serves the very large Ganga-Brahmaputra basin.

Q. 3. What is the length of coastline of India?

Answer: The length of the coastline of India is 7,516.6 km. India has 12 major and 187 minor ports. Among the states, Gujarat has the longest coastline of 1915 km.

Q. 4. Which is the riverine port on the Eastern coast of India?

Answer: The east coast canal with the stretches of Brahmani river along with Matai river and delta channels of Mahanadi river are the riverine ports on the Eastern coast of India.

Q. 5. Where is the headquarters of Eastern railway zone located?

Answer: Indian railway is divided into sixteen zones. One of them is eastern railways. The headquarters of the eastern railway is situated in Fairley Palace in Kolkata which has four sub-divisions: Howrah, Malda, Sealdah and Asansol.

Q. 6. Name the authority envisaged with the task of implementation of super Highways?

Answer: Government of India launched the road development project to link the major cities in India by making the six-lane super highways. The objective to make these highways is to reduce the time for transport. National Highway Authority of India (NHAI) has been given the responsibility to implement this project.

Q. 7. Which is the most important mode of transport in India?

Answer: Roadways are the most important means of transport because a) construction cost of roads is much less than that of railway lines b) roads can traverse comparatively more dissected and undulating topography c) roads can traverse higher gradients d) road transportation is economical in transportation of few persons and relatively smaller amount of goods over short distances e) it also provides door-to-door service f) road transport is used as a feeder to other modes of transport.

Q. 8. Name the state where Haldia port is located.

Answer: Kolkata is an inland riverine port which serves the large port of Ganga-Brahmaputra basin. A subsidiary port known as Haldia was developed in order to relieve growing pressure on Kolkata port.

Q. 9. When and why was Border Road Organisation (BRO) created?

Answer: BRO which is under the Government of India constructs and maintains roads in the bordering area of the country. For the strategic development of roads, it was established in 1960. They had improved accessibility in difficult terrain and helped in the economic development of this area.

Q. 10. What is the objective of Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojna?

Answer: This facility was started by the late by-then prime minister of India Atal Behari Vajpayee in the year 2000. Its objective was to provide good connectivity of roads between villages that were unconnected.

Q. 11. Name any two iron-ore exporting ports of India.

Answer: The two ports exporting iron in India are the Marmagao port (Goa) and New Mangalore port. Marmagao port exports about fifty per cent of iron ore export goods. New Mangalore Port in Karnataka caters to the export of iron ore concentrates from Kudremukh mines.

Q. 12. Where are railways developed in hilly areas and why? Trace their history in the colonial period.

Answer: Railway tracts are laid through low hills, gaps or tunnels in the hilly terrains of peninsular region. In the places such as Himalayan regions, it is not favourable to construct railway lines. In the past, it was difficult to lay railway lines in deserts of Rajasthan, swamps of Gujarat and forest areas of Madhya Pradesh. Recently, the development of Konkan railways in the west coast has facilitated the movement of passengers and goods in this most economic region of India.

Q. 13. Why are border roads important for us?

Answer: Border Road Organisation (BRO) which is an organisation working under the Government of India constructs and maintains the roads in the bordering areas of the country. It was established in 1960 for the development of the roads of strategic importance. They had improved accessibility in the difficult terrain areas and helped in the economic development of this area.

Q. 14. Explain why road transport still needs to be developed in India. What are the priority areas?

Answer: Road transportation in India faces several problems. Increasing traffic and passengers is making road transport inadequate for use. About half of the roads are unmetalled, and this limits their usage during the rainy season. Also, the national highways are inadequate. The roadways in the cities are highly congested, and bridges and culverts are old and narrow. Priority areas are the roadways that connect cities and towns, and within the cities, it is the bridges as they have become old.

Q. 15. Why is favourable Balance of Trade desired for an economy?

Answer: The difference between export and import gives the balance of trade of a country. If the export quantity exceeds the import quantity, then the trade balance is said to be favourable, and if import quantity exceeds the export quantity, then it is unfavourable trade balance. Favourable trade balance in a country is desired for an economy as it increases the economic growth rate of the country. More export leads to more incoming of foreign exchange which helps in filling the deficit in the longer run.

Q. 16. Why is tourism called invisible trade?

Answer: Tourism doesn't involve the exchange of goods. There is no physical transport of goods in the tourism industry. Tourists buy services at hotels, restaurants, etc. and there is the transport of intangible services. Thus, tourism is called invisible trade.

Q. 17. How will you differentiate between broad gauge and narrow gauge?

Answer: Indian railway runs on multiple gauge operations, i.e. broad gauge, metre gauge and narrow gauge. Broad gauge and narrow gauge can be differentiated based on their measurements and the distance they can be used to travel. Broad gauge is 1.676 metres, and the narrow gauge is 0.762 and 0.610. Running track in broad gauge is 77,347 km, and in narrow gauge, it is 2474 km.

Q. 18. What is the importance of railway transport? Describe any three major problems faced by Indian Railways.

Answer: Importance of railway transportation:

- a) It is the important mode of transportation for freight and passengers in India.
- b) The railway does multipurpose activities like business, sightseeing, pilgrimage along with transportation of goods over long distances.
- c) Railways have also been an integrating force for 150 years.
- d) They bind the economy of the country and accelerate the development of agriculture and industry.

Thefts, causing damage to the railway property and passengers travelling without tickets are some problems that Indian railway faces.

Q. 19. Describe any four features of Indian tourism as a trade.

Answer: The tourism in India has grown in the past three decades.

- a) People from other countries visit India to see historical places. This has increased the foreign exchange in our country.
- b) Tourism also promotes national integration, provides support to local handicrafts and cultural pursuits.
- c) Helps in spreading knowledge about our culture throughout the world.

Q. 20. What is the importance of waterways in India?

Answer: a) Waterways are the cheapest means of transport and are most suitable to carry heavy and bulky goods.

- b) It is a fuel-efficient and environment-friendly mode of transport.
- c) India has inland navigation waterways of 14,500 km in length.
- d) There are some major seaports which help in the transportation of goods from and to various countries.
- e) Also, there are riverine ports for passengers to travel and to transport goods within India.

Q. 21. " Intensive utilisation of railway track is need of the hour." Justify this statement.

Answer: Growth in population has led to the increase in transport traffic in railways. Also, there is an increase in the transport goods from one place to another. Due to these reasons, the utilisation of railway track has been increased. The statement given

above justifies the need for the maintenance of tracts as its utilisation has been increased.

Q. 22. Explain why road transport still needs to be developed in India. What are the priority areas?

Answer: Road transportation in India faces several problems. Increasing traffic and passengers are making road transport inadequate for use. About half of the roads are unmetalled, and this limits their usage during the rainy season. Also, the national highways are inadequate. The roadways in the cities are highly congested, and bridges and culverts are old and narrow. Priority areas are the roadways that connect cities and towns, and within the cities, it is the bridges as they have become old.