

Class X - Social Science

Lifelines of National Economy

CBSE NOTES

Lifelines of National Economy - Challenge Worksheet

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Challenge Questions

1. Evaluate the role of the Golden Quadrilateral Super Highways in reducing the time and distance between mega cities of India. Discuss its impact on the national economy.

Hint: Consider the economic benefits of improved connectivity versus the environmental and financial costs.

Solution: The Golden Quadrilateral Super Highways play a pivotal role in enhancing connectivity between major cities, facilitating faster movement of goods and people, thereby boosting trade and commerce. It reduces transportation costs and time, contributing to economic growth. However, the high construction and maintenance costs pose challenges.

2. Analyze the challenges faced by the Indian Railways in maintaining its vast network and suggest measures to overcome them.

Hint: Think about the balance between modernization costs and the need for affordable public transport.

Solution: Indian Railways faces challenges like outdated infrastructure, financial losses, and safety concerns. Measures include modernizing tracks, introducing high-speed trains, and improving passenger amenities to enhance efficiency and safety.

3. Discuss the significance of pipeline transportation in India, highlighting its advantages over traditional modes of transport.

Hint: Consider the geographical and economic factors that make pipelines a preferred choice for certain goods.

Solution: Pipeline transportation is crucial for efficiently transporting crude oil, natural gas, and other fluids over long distances with minimal losses. Its advantages include lower operational costs and reduced environmental impact compared to road or rail transport.

4. Examine the potential of waterways as a sustainable mode of transport in India, considering the country's geographical features.

Hint: Reflect on the environmental benefits and the need for investment in infrastructure.

Solution: Waterways offer a cost-effective and eco-friendly transport alternative, especially for bulky goods. India's extensive river network and long coastline provide a natural advantage, but underutilization and infrastructure gaps limit its potential.

5. Critically assess the impact of air transport on the socio-economic development of remote areas in India.

Hint: Consider the role of government schemes like UDAN in making air travel more inclusive.

Solution: Air transport bridges the gap between remote areas and urban centers, promoting tourism and trade. However, high costs and limited accessibility for the average citizen restrict its broader socio-economic benefits.

6. Explore the relationship between advancements in communication technology and the growth of international trade in India.

Hint: Think about how digital platforms facilitate cross-border trade and the challenges of digital divide.

Solution: Advancements in communication technology, such as the internet and mobile connectivity, have streamlined trade processes, enabling faster and more efficient transactions. This has boosted India's participation in global trade, especially in IT and services.

7. Debate the statement: 'Tourism is a trade that benefits both the economy and cultural exchange.' with reference to India.

Hint: Balance the economic benefits with sustainable tourism practices.

Solution: Tourism contributes significantly to India's GDP, creates jobs, and promotes cultural exchange. However, unchecked tourism can lead to environmental degradation and cultural

commodification.

8. Investigate the role of border roads in enhancing national security and economic development in India's frontier regions.

Hint: Consider the strategic importance versus ecological impacts.

Solution: Border roads improve accessibility to remote areas, facilitating military logistics and promoting local economies through trade and tourism. Yet, their construction in ecologically sensitive areas raises environmental concerns.

9. Assess the impact of the Digital India programme on bridging the rural-urban divide in access to information and services.

Hint: Reflect on the transformative potential of digital inclusion and the hurdles in implementation.

Solution: The Digital India programme aims to extend digital infrastructure to rural areas, improving access to services like education and healthcare. Challenges include digital literacy and infrastructure gaps.

10. Compare the environmental impacts of road transport versus rail transport in India, suggesting ways to mitigate negative effects.

Hint: Consider the trade-offs between convenience, cost, and environmental sustainability.

Solution: Road transport contributes significantly to pollution and congestion, while rail transport is more energy-efficient and less polluting. Mitigation strategies include promoting electric vehicles and expanding public rail transport.

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