Lifelines of National Economy

Short Answer Questions (3 Marks)

Q. 1. What are the benefits of ‘Border Roads’?
(i) Border Roads Organisation was established in 1960. It constructs and maintains roads.
(ii) It was established for the development of the roads of strategic importance in the north and north-eastern border areas.
(iii) These roads have improved accessibility in areas of difficult terrain.

Q. 2. What are the problems faced by the Indian railways?
The Indian Railways faces the following problems:
(i) Many passengers travel without tickets.
(ii) Thefts and damage of railway property has not yet stopped completely.
(iii) People stop the trains, pull the chain unnecessarily, and this causes heavy damage to the railways.

Q. 3. What are the three important networks of pipeline transportation?
(i) From oil field in upper Assam to Kanpur via Guwahati, Barauni and Allahabad.
(ii) From Salaya in Gujarat to Jallandhar in Punjab via Viramgam, Mathura, Delhi and Sonepat.
(iii) Gas pipeline from Hazira in Gujarat connects Jagdishpur in Uttar Pradesh via Vijaipur in Madhya Pradesh.

Q. 4. What are the advantages of waterways?
(i) Waterways are the cheapest means of transport.
(ii) They are most suitable for carrying heavy and bulky goods.
(iii) It is fuel-efficient and also an environment friendly mode of transport.

Q. 5. How does India account for the largest telecom network in India?
(i) More than two-thirds of the villages in India have already been covered with the Subscriber Trunk Dialing (STD) telephone facility.
(ii) In order to strengthen the flow of information from the grassroot to the higher level the government has made special provision to extend twenty-four hours STD facility to every village in the country.
(iii) There is a uniform rate of STD facilities all over India. It has been made possible by integrating the development in space technology with communication technology.

Q. 6. Why do the means of transport and communication serve as the lifelines of a nation?
(i) Movement of goods and services from their supply locations to demand locations necessitates the need for transport.
(ii) The pace of a country depends upon the production of goods and services as well as their movement over space.
(iii) Therefore, efficient means of transport and communication are prerequisites for fast development. Therefore, modern means of transport and communication serve as lifelines of our nation and its modern economy.

Q. 7. What problems are we facing with roadways in India?
(i) Keeping in view the volume of traffic and passengers, the road network is inadequate.
(ii) About half of the roads are unmetalled and they cannot be used during rainy season.
(iii) The National Highways are also inadequate and the roads are highly congested in cities.

Q. 8. What is the importance of railways in India?
Importance of railways:
(i) Railways is the principal mode of transportation for freight and passengers in India.
(ii) It is most suitable for long distances.
(iii) Apart from being a means of transport, Indian railways has been a great integrating force.

Q. 9. What are the advantages of using pipelines?
(i) Pipelines are used for transporting crude oil, petroleum products, and natural gas from oil and natural gas fields to refineries, fertilizer factories and big thermal plants.
(ii) Solids can also be transported through pipelines when converted into slurry.
(iii) Initial cost of laying a pipeline is high but subsequent running costs are minimal.

Q. 10. Why is air travel economical in north eastern regions?
(i) Airways can cover very difficult terrains like high mountains, dreary deserts, dense forests and long oceanic stretches with great ease.
(ii) North eastern part of the country is marked with the presence of big rivers, dissected reliefs, dense forests and frequent showers and floods and international frontiers, etc.
(iii) Air travel has made access easier to these undulating north eastern states of India.

(i) It keeps you in touch with your near and dear ones.
(ii) Long distance communication is also easier without physical movement of the communicator or receiver.
(iii) It helps in integrating families.

Q. 12. Differentiate between personal and mass communication.
Personal Communication
1. It’s the communication between person to person.
2. It provides necessary communication between two people making man a social animal,
3. We have letters, e-mails, SMSs, telephone and mobile phone facilities which also includes STD and ISD services.

Mass Communication
1. It’s the communication among masses.
2. It provides entertainment as well as creates awareness among the masses
3. It includes radio, television, newspapers, magazines, books, films, etc.

Q. 13. Which three highways are included in Super Highways of India?
(i) **Golden Quadrilateral**: The government of India has launched a major road development project linking Delhi, Kolkata, Chennai, Mumbai and Delhi by a six-lane super highway.

(ii) **The North-South Corridor**: In the north it links Srinagar of Jammu & Kashmir to Kanyakumari in Tamil Nadu.

(iii) **The East-West Corridor**: It connects Silchar of Assam in the east to Porbandar of Gujarat in the west.

**Q. 14. What are the major objectives of these Super Highways?**

The major objective of these Super Highways is to reduce the time and distance between mega cities of India. These projects have also helped in the economic development of the country. These highway projects are being implemented by the National Highway Authority of India (NHAI).

**Q. 15. What is road density? What is the road density of India?**

The length of road per 100 sq kms of area is known as density of roads. Distribution of road is not uniform in the country. Density of all roads varies from only 10 km in Jammu & Kashmir to 375 km in Kerala with the national average of 75 km (1996-97).

**Q. 16. Name the National Waterways of India.**

(i) The Ganga river between Allahabad and Haldia is National Waterways No. 1.

(ii) The Brahmaputra river between Sadiya and Dhubri is National Waterways No. 2.

(iii) The West-Coast canal in Kerala, i.e., Kottapuram—Komman and Udyogamandal and Champakara canals cover the area of National Waterways No. 3.

**Q. 17. What is the strategic importance of New Mangalore and Kochi ports?**

(i) **New Mangalore**: This port is located in Karnataka and caters to the export of iron ore concentrates from Kudremukh mines.

(ii) **Kochi Port**: Kochi is the extreme South-Western port, located at the entrance of a lagoon with a natural harbour. This port is having the biggest ship building yard.

**Q. 18. What kind of port is Port of Tuticorin?**

Moving along the east coast, we can see the extreme South Eastern Port of Tuticorin. This port has a natural harbour and rich hinterland. It has a flourishing trade dealings of a large variety of cargoes to even our neighbouring countries like Sri Lanka, Maldives, etc. and the coastal regions of India.

**Q. 19. Name the major international airports of India.**

(i) **Delhi**: Indira Gandhi International Airport.

(ii) **Amritsar**: Raja Sansi International Airport.

(iii) **Kolkata**: Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose International Airport.

(iv) **Mumbai**: Chhatrapati Shivaji International Airport.

(v) **Chennai**: Meenambakkam International Airport.

(vi) **Thiruvananthapuram**: Nedimbacherry International Airport.
Q. 20. What is India’s status in the making of feature films?
India is the largest producer of feature films in the world. It produces short films, video feature films and video short films. The Central Board of Film Certification is the authority to certify both Indian and foreign films.

Q. 21. Define the following: Trade, International Trade, Local Trade.
(i) **Trade**: The exchange of goods among people, states and countries is referred to as trade.
(ii) **International Trade**: Trade between two countries is called international trade.
(iii) **Local Trade**: It is carried in cities, towns and villages.

Q. 22. What commodities are exported from India?
Commodities exported from India are: agriculture and allied products, ores and minerals, gems and jewellery, chemical and allied products, engineering goods and petroleum products. India has emerged as a software giant at the international level and it is earning foreign exchange through the export of information technology.

Q. 23. Which commodities are imported to India?
Commodities imported to India are petroleum and petroleum products, pearls and precious stones, inorganic chemicals, coal, coke and briquettes, fertilisers, cereals, edible oils and newsprint.

**Long Answer Questions (4 Marks)**

Q. 1. How do physiographic, economic and administrative factors influence the railway network in India?
(i) **The northern plains:**
(a) This region has vast level land, high population density and rich agricultural resources provided with most favourable conditions for their growth.
(b) However a large number of rivers requiring construction of bridges, posed some obstacles.
(ii) **The hilly terrains of Peninsular region:**
(a) Here, railway tracks are laid through low hills, gaps or tunnels.
(iii) **The Himalayan mountainous region:**
(a) This region is also unfavourable for the Construction of railway lines due to high relief, sparse population and lack of economic opportunities.
(iv) **The sandy plains:**
(a) It was difficult to lay railway lines on the sandy plains of Rajasthan, swamps of Gujarat, forested tracks of Madhya Pradesh, Chhattisgarh, Odisha and Jharkhand.
(v) **The Sahyadri stretch:**
(a) This stretch could also be crossed only through gaps or passes.
(b) Recently, the development of the Konkan railway along the west coast has facilitated the movement of passengers and goods in this most important economic region of India.
(c) It has also faced a number of problems such as sinking of track in some stretches and landslides.
Q. 2. What are the various means of mass communication used in India?
(i) It includes radio, television, newspaper, magazines, books and films.
(ii) All India Radio broadcasts a variety of programmes in national, regional or local languages.
(iii) Doordarshan, the national television channel of India broadcasts a variety of programmes from entertainment, education to sports, etc.
(iv) India publishes a large number of newspapers and periodicals annually.
(v) Newspapers are published in about 100 languages and dialects.
(vi) India is the largest producer of feature films in the world. It produces short films, video feature films and video short films.

Q. 3. Why is tourism considered a trade as well as an industry?
Tourism in India has grown substantially over the last three decades.
(i) Foreign tourists’ arrival in the country had seen an increase, contributing 21,828 crore of foreign exchange.
(ii) More than 15 million people are directly engaged in tourism industry.
(iii) Tourism also promotes national integration and provides support to local handicrafts.
(iv) It also helps in the development of international understanding about Indian culture and heritage.
(v) Foreign tourists visit India for heritage tourism, ecotourism, adventure tourism, cultural tourism, medical tourism and business tourism.
(vi) Rajasthan, Goa, Jammu and Kashmir and temple towns of South India are important destinations of foreign tourists in India.

Q. 4. How do roadways score over railways in India?
Roadways score over railways due to the following reasons:
(i) Construction cost of roads is much lower than that of railway lines.
(ii) Roads can traverse comparatively more dissected and undulating topography.
(iii) Roads can negotiate higher gradients of slopes and as such can traverse mountains such as the Himalayas.
(iv) Road transport is economical in the transportation of few persons and relatively small amounts of goods over short distances.
(v) It also provides door-to-door service; thus, the Cost of loading and unloading is much lower.
(vi) Road transport is also used as a feeder to other modes of transport such as they provide link between railway stations, air and sea ports.

Q. 5. What is the importance of Indian railways?
(i) Railways is the principal mode of transportation for freight and passengers in India.
(ii) Railways also makes it possible to conduct a number of activities like business, sightseeing, pilgrimage along with transportation of goods over long distances.
(iii) Apart from being a means of transport, the Indian railways has been a great integrating force for more than 150 years.
(iv) Railways in India binds the economic life of the country by developing industry and agriculture through their transportation. The Indian railways is the largest public sector undertaking in India.
Q. 6. How are transport, communication and trade complementary to one another?
The pace of development of a country depends upon the production of goods and services as well as their movement over space. Therefore, efficient means of transport are prerequisites for fast development. For a long time, trade and transport were restricted to a limited space. With the development in science and technology, the area of influence of trade and transport expanded far and wide. Today, the world has been 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 one another.

Q. 7. Classify roads of India on the basis of their capacity.
(i) Golden Quadrilateral Super Highways: These projects are implemented by the National Highway Authority of India (NHAI). There are three major Super Highways. Golden Quadrilateral starts from Delhi, moves to Mumbai, Chennai, Kolkata and back to Delhi. The North-South Corridor starts from Srinagar to Kanyakumari. The East-West Corridor connects Siichar to Porbandar.
(ii) National Highways: These roads are laid and maintained by Central Public Works Department (CPWD). A number of major National Highways run in North-South and East-West directions, e.g., Sher Shah Suri Marg is called National Highway No. 1.
(iii) State Highways: Roads linking a state capital with different district headquarters are known as state highways. These roads are constructed and maintained by States and Union Territories.
(iv) District Roads: These roads connect the district headquarters with other places of the district. These roads are maintained by the Zila Parishad.
(v) Rural Roads: These roads link rural areas and villages with towns. These roads are constructed under the Pradhan Mantri Grameen Sadak Yojana.

Q. 8. What do you know about Kandla Port?
Kandla in Kachchh was the first port developed soon after independence to ease the volume of trade on the Mumbai port. It is the only important port of Gujarat as after partition, the Karachi port had become a part of Pakistan. It is a tidal port. It caters to the convenient handling of export and imports of highly productive granary and industrial belt stretching across the states of Jammu & Kashmir, Himachal Pradesh, Punjab, Haryana, Rajasthan and Gujarat.

Q. 9. What is the contribution of Mumbai and Goa ports in the economy of India?
Mumbai is the biggest port with a spacious, natural and well-sheltered harbour. The Jawaharlal Nehru port was planned with a view to decongest the Mumbai port and serve as a hub port for this region. Marmagao port of Goa is the premier iron-ore exporting port of the country. This port accounts for about fifty per cent of India’s iron-ore export.

Q. 10. What is the role played by the Eastern coastal ports of India in trade?
(i) Chennai: It is one of the oldest artificial ports of the country. It is ranked next to Mumbai in terms of volume of trade and cargo.
(ii) Vishakhapatnam: It is the deepest land-locked and well-protected port. This port was originally conceived as an outlet for iron ore exports.
(iii) Paradip Port: It is located in Odisha and specialises in the export of iron ore.
Q. 11. What are the advantages of airways?
(i) The air travel, today, is the fastest, most comfortable and the prestigious mode of transport.
(ii) It can cover very difficult terrains like high mountains, dreary deserts, dense forests and also long oceanic stretches with great ease.
(iii) In north-eastern part of India, there are big rivers, dissected relief, dense forests and frequent floods and international frontiers.
(iv) In such situations, air transport is considered to be the best option. Government of India has made special provisions to make air travel pocket friendly to north-eastern states of India.

Q. 12. How is classification of various mails done by the postal network of India?
The Indian postal network is the largest in the world. It handles parcels as well as personal written communication. Its classification is done in the following manner:
(i) First Class Mail: Cards and envelopes are considered first class mail and are airlifted between stations covering both land and air.
(ii) Second Class Mail: It includes book packets, registered newspapers and periodicals. They are carried by surface mail, covering land and water transport. To facilitate quick delivery of mails in large towns and cities, six mail channels have been introduced recently.
These are called:
(a). Rajdhani Channel (b) Metro Channel
(c) Green Channel (d) Business Channel
(e) Bulk Mail Channel (f) Periodical Channel

Q. 13. Which tourisms attract foreigners to India?
Foreign tourists visit India for heritage tourism, ecotourism, adventure tourism, cultural tourism, medical tourism and business tourism. Rajasthan, Goa, Jammu & Kashmir and temple towns of South India are important destinations of foreign tourists. There is a vast potential of tourism development in the north-eastern states and the interior parts of Himalayas, but due to strategic reasons, these have not been encouraged so far. However, there lies a bright future ahead for this upcoming industry.

Map Question (3 Marks)
Mark the following on the given map of India:
• East-West Corridor from Siichar to Porbandar
• NH-7
• 2 sea ports on the west coast