



1

WHAT IS ECONOMICS

Economics as a subject has assumed great importance in the field of social science. In our day to day life we use a lot of economic concepts such as goods, market, demand, supply, price, inflation, banking, tax, lending, borrowing, rate of interest etc. Similarly, we take economic decisions related to the distribution of our income to purchase various goods, making a budget to do some work, taking up a job to earn, withdrawing money from bank etc. We also observe and get information on the economic situation of our society or country foreign country and the world.



OBJECTIVES

After completing this lesson, you will be able to:

- *know the meaning of economics;*
- *explain the important branches of economics;*
- *distinguish between positive and normative economics;*

1.1 MEANING OF ECONOMICS

Economics is a vast subject. So it is not easy to give a precise definition or meaning of economics as its scope and the area it covers are very large. Ever since, it emerged as a separate branch of study in social science, various scholars and authors have tried to give its meaning and objectives. It should be noted that with development of time and civilization the definition of economics has undergone modification and change. Let us focus the major ideas involving the meaning of economics below:

- (i) Many scholars and authors in the late eighteenth and early nineteenth century believed that economics is the **science of wealth**. These scholars are called the classical thinkers. They viewed that economics deals with the phenomenon of



Notes

wealth which includes nature and causes of wealth, creation of wealth by individuals and nations etc.

- (ii) The problem with wealth definition was that it did not talk about people who had no wealth. Having wealth and not having wealth divided the society into rich and “not rich” or poor. So many scholars in the early nineteenth century thought that economics should address the issue of “welfare of the society” and not just wealth. Accordingly economics was seen as **science of welfare**. Welfare is both quantitative and qualitative in nature. Consumption of goods and services, increase in per capita income etc are quantitative aspects of welfare. Living in peace, enjoying leisure, acquiring knowledge etc are qualitative aspects of welfare. As science of welfare, economics was said to be concerned with the quantitative welfare only because it can be measured in terms of money.
- (iii) The welfare definition of economics explained only the material aspects of welfare. But people want both material goods and non-material services. Since resources available with every individual or society are scarce, people try to achieve their goals by alternative use of these resources which they do by making appropriate choice. So economics was treated as **science of scarcity and choice**. As science of scarcity and choice, economics studies human behavior as relationship between ends and means which are scarce and have alternative uses.

Here “ends” imply “wants”. “Scarce Means” imply “limited resources”. According to the scarcity definition, limited resources can be used alternatively. Take the example of production of two goods – Cloth and Wheat. We cannot produce unlimited amount of cloth and wheat with limited amount of resources. The resources have to be divided to produce these goods. Let demand for one of the goods say wheat increases so it has to be produced in larger quantity for which we need more resources. But given that, resources are limited, we can produce more wheat only by withdrawing some resources from the production of cloth and putting them in production of wheat. As a result, cloth production will fall and wheat production will increase. In this example, we have two alternatives –

- (i) Keep producing the same amount of cloth and wheat.
- (ii) Produce more wheat due to increase in its demand thereby decreasing some amount of cloth.

Since the economy wants more wheat, the study of economics tells us how this problem can be solved with limited resources.

- (iv) In the twentieth century the objective of achieving growth and development of the entire economy gained momentum. Role of the government in economic growth and development became increasingly important. So economics, no longer,

remained limited to individual decision making and use of resources only. Its scope has been expanded to include production and consumption of commodities overtime so that the economy achieves growth and development.

So economics is treated as the **science of growth and development**. In fact, it is true that now a days people talk about well being of individual and the whole nation. It is understood that for an individual to be able to satisfy his/her wants, it is necessary that the whole economy must grow and find proper mechanism to distribute the benefits of growth among the individual citizens. So performance of the economy is very important in terms of use of its resources and production and distribution of goods and services. The economy must allocate its resources among various alternative activities, ensure the efficient use and find ways as to how they would grow for future development of the economy. On this basis, many economies in the world have performed well. For example the USA, European countries, Japan, etc. are called developed economies because they have achieved higher level of income for their citizens. Our Indian economy is a developing economy because many of its citizens are still poor. A study of economics tells us the state of our economy and guides us to achieve higher level of growth and development.

- (v) Economists of late twentieth century have also started talking about welfare of future generation and protection of natural environment. Hence economics is also treated as **science of Sustainable Development**. To achieve higher level of growth and development, economies around the world have been exploiting natural resources and polluting the environment. Consumption of goods and services have even resulted in lots of wastages. Note that some resources like minerals, mineral oil, forests are depleting fast because of their rising consumption by present generation. So future generation may be left with little or no resources. It is our moral duty to use the available scarce resources judiciously, efficiently and ensure welfare of our future generation.



INTEXT QUESTIONS 1.1

1. “Economics is a science of wealth”. What does this imply?
2. Which aspect of welfare does economics deal as the science of welfare?

1.2 BRANCHES OF ECONOMICS

The study of Economics is divided into two distinct branches. They are

- (i) MicroEconomics
- (ii) MacroEconomics



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1.2.1 Micro Economics

The word “micro” means very small. So micro economics implies study of economics at a very small level. What does this exactly mean? In a society comprising of many individuals collectively every single individual makes just a small part. So the economic decisions taken by a single individual become the subject matter of micro economics. What are the economic decisions an individual takes? We can cite some examples in this regard.

- (a) In order to satisfy various wants an individual buys good and services. To buy goods and services the individual has to pay some price from his limited amount of income. So the individual has to make a decision with regard to quantity of the good to be purchased at given price. He/she has to also decide the combination of different goods to buy given his/her income so that he/she can get maximum satisfaction as a buyer.
- (b) An individual also sells goods and services as a seller. Here he has to take decision regarding the quantity of good to be supplied at a given price so that he/she can earn some profit.
- (c) All of us pay price to buy a good? How does this price get determined in the market? Micro economics provides answer to this question.
- (d) In order to produce a good an individual producer has to take decision as to how to combine the various factors of production so that maximum output can be produced at minimum cost.

All these are some important areas of study under micro economics.

1.2.2 Macro Economics

The word macro means very large. In comparison to an individual, the society or the country or economy as a whole is very large. So the economic decisions taken at the level of the economy as whole are subject matter of macro economics. Take the example of the economic decisions taken by the government. We all know that the government represents the whole country, not just any individual. So the decisions taken by the government are meant for solving the problems of the whole society. For example government makes policies with respect to collection of taxes, expenditure on public goods and welfare activities etc. which affect the whole economy. “How do such policies work” is the subject matter of macro economics.

In micro economics we study the behavior of an individual as a buyer and seller. As buyer the individual spends money on goods and services which is called his/her consumption expenditure. If we add consumption expenditure of all individuals then we get idea of aggregate consumption expenditure of the whole society. Similarly aggregating incomes of individuals becomes total income of the country or national income. So study of these

aggregates such as national income, total consumption expenditure of the country etc. comes under macro economics.

Another example of macroeconomic issue is the study of inflation or price rise.

Inflation or price rise does not affect an individual only, but it affects the whole economy. So knowing its causes and effects as well as controlling it, come under the study of macro economics.

Similarly, problem of unemployment, economic growth and development etc. concern with the whole population of the nation and hence are covered under the study of macro economics.



INTEXT QUESTION 1.2

Write whether the following statements are True or False

- (i) Inflation is studied under micro economics.
- (ii) Determination of price of a good is a problem under macro economics.
- (iii) Macro economics deals with the issue of employment and unemployment.
- (iv) Micro economic deals with individual decision making with respect to buying a good.

1.3 POSITIVE VS NORMATIVE ECONOMICS

The study of economics involves both positive and normative aspects in terms of understanding the events taking place around us, taking decisions, prescribing rules and regulations and implementing policies to solve economic problems. Positive economics talks about “What is” where as normative economics talks about “What ought to be” or “what should be”. Positive economics talks about the things happening or might happen in the economic world. Normative economics gives value judgments about things and tells us to “What should have happened”. Consider the following statements.

- (i) India’s population have crossed 100 crore mark. India is the second largest populated country in the world.
- (ii) India should not allow its population to grow so fast. It must control its population.

Statement (i) describes a phenomenon which is happening. This is a positive statement. Statement (ii) gives a value judgment on India’s population. This is a normative statement.

Now consider another set of statements given below.





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- (iii) Workers will work hard if they are given more wages.
- (iv) Factories should increase the wage rate of workers to provide justice for hard work.

Statement (iii) is a positive statement. It tells about a certain fact. Statement (iv) is normative in nature because it tells about the right thing which if takes place will do good to society.

Economic decision making by individuals or government or business firms involves both positive and normative aspects of the things.

For example as given by statements (i) and (ii) because India's population is growing fast and posing problems, the government is doing its best to control the population growth through effective family planning and other measures. Similarly, based on statement (iii) and (iv), government has implemented minimum wage laws so that workers get justice.



INTEXT QUESTIONS 1.3

1. Identify the following statements as positive or normative.
 - (i) India has a large number of poor people.
 - (ii) The government should spend more on education.
 - (iii) Poor people are suffering due to price rise of essential commodities.
 - (iv) Bank has increased its interest rate.
 - (v) People should be encouraged to save in post offices and commercial banks.



WHAT YOU HAVE LEARNT

- Economics as a subject matter of social science has been treated as a science of—
 - (a) Wealth, (b) Welfare, (c) Scarcity and Choice (d) Growth and Development and (e) Sustainable Development.
- Micro Economics and Macro Economics are two important branches of Economics.
- Micro economics deals with the economic decision making by individuals and institutions.
- Macro Economics deals with economic aggregates at the level of the whole economy.

- Economic facts and figures are called Positive Economics.
- Normative Economics deals with “What ought to be”.



TERMINAL EXERCISE

1. Economics is science of scarcity and choice. Explain.
2. How does wealth definition of economics differ from welfare definition of economics?
3. Differentiate between micro and macro economics?
4. Distinguish between Positive and Normative economics by giving examples?



ANSWERS TO INTEXT QUESTIONS

Intext Questions 1.1

1. As science of wealth economics explains the nature and causes of wealth, creation of wealth by individuals and nations etc.
2. Quantitative aspect of welfare.

Intext Questions 1.2

- (i) False, (ii) False, (iii) True, (iv) True.

Intext Questions 1.3

- (i) Positive, (ii) Normative, (iii) Positive,
(iv) Positive, (v) Normative.



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HUMAN WANTS

In our daily life we see that different people are engaged in different types of activities. For example, some people are engaged in farming, some work in offices, some are selling vegetables, some are having different types of shops, some are running factories etc. These people are engaged in different types of activities to earn income. They have to earn income because they have to satisfy so many wants.

To earn income people use resources man made or natural. Wants are unlimited but the resources are limited/Scarce.



OBJECTIVES

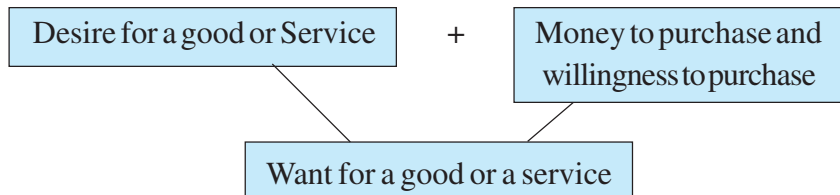
After completing this lesson, you will be able to:

- *explain the meaning of wants;*
- *explain how wants arise and grow;*
- *understand that all wants can not be satisfied;*
- *state the characteristics of wants;*
- *know how resources satisfy wants;*
- *differentiate between economic and non economic wants;*
- *explain that with development wants expand and change;*
- *understand the Indian philosophy of limiting wants.*

2.1 MEANING OF WANTS

It is human nature to have many goods in life. There would be an endless list of such wishes. Let us call these wishes as 'desires'. One may desire a good house, a car, a computer, good food, decent clothes and so on. How can one get all of these? One may

have these things if he/she has money. If one does not have enough money, then only one or two of these or none of these could be purchased. Which of our desires are to be fulfilled depends upon our capacity to pay or purchasing power. That is why not all desires can be met as we need money to satisfy them. The desires which are backed by money and willingness to purchase may be called wants. A beggar may desire to have a car but this desire can not be called a want as it is not backed by adequate money. However, if a rich man desires to have a car and is willing to purchase it, the desire can be turned into a want.



2.2 HOW DO WANTS ARISE AND GROW

Wants are a part of our living. They arise with the birth of man. Man in ancient times was satisfied while living in forests, drinking water from the streams, plucking fruits from trees or eating animal flesh to satisfy hunger. He had limited wants which were related to food, Shelter and clothing. Over a period of time, these wants have grown. How did it happen?

With the discovery of fire man started cooking food. This led to the discovery of new food items. Man's taste grew and expanded. A large variety of food stuffs came into existence. Today you can find different varieties of tastes, colours and shapes in food items.

As regards clothing, man has moved from unstitched animal skins and tree leaves to a variety of clothes. In order to live better, man discovered and invented new items of clothing. As knowledge, taste and fashion are increasing, new and better products in clothing are emerging.

In a similar fashion, need for housing has also undergone a tremendous change. Man has moved from caves to huts made of straw and pucca houses made of bricks. Now a days, houses made of wood, pucca houses, bungalows and palaces with fancy doors, windows and all sorts of decorative paints and fixtures are in use.

However, some wants may be necessary for the existence of life. For example, food, clothing and shelter. These are called basic wants or necessities. There are some other wants which make our life easy and comfortable. These are called comforts. Examples of comforts may be coolers, scooter etc. Some goods give us pleasure but they are very costly. For example, luxurious cars, diamond jewellery etc. such good are called luxuries.



Notes



Notes

2.3 SATISFACTION OF WANTS

Do all our wants get satisfied? No, As soon as one want is satisfied another takes its place; our wants increase because we desire to live a better and comfortable life. As new goods and service are developed, we want them. Wants can be satisfied by goods and services. Goods and services can be produced with the help of resources. Land, labour, capital and entrepreneurship are called resources which help in the production of goods and services. Wants are unlimited but the resources to satisfy them are scarce. As soon as one want is satisfied, another takes its place. Some of these wants can be satisfied by man with his limited income while for others he may not be able to do so. *It is, therefore, not possible to fulfill all our wants though a single want is satiable.*

2.4 CHARACTERISTICS OF WANTS

The following are the most important characteristics of wants.

(i) Wants are unlimited:

Famous economist Marshall has rightly said that human wants are countless in number and are varied in kind. As soon as one want is satisfied another want takes its place. This endless circle of wants continues through out life. For example, a person who has never used a fan would wish to have a fan. When this want is satisfied, he would wish to get an air cooler and a scooter. Once these wants are satisfied, then he would wish to have an air conditioner, a car and so on. Thus, we see wants never come to an end.

(ii) A single want is satiable

Each want taken separately can be satisfied. It has rightly been said that there is a limit to each particular want. For example, if a man is thirsty he can satisfy his thirst by taking one, two or three glasses of water and after that he does not want water at that point of time.

(iii) Some wants arise again and again

Most wants recur. If they are satisfied once, they arise again after a certain period. We eat food and hunger is satisfied but after a few hours, we again feel hungry and we have to satisfy our hunger again with food. Therefore, hunger, thirst etc. are such wants which occur again and again.

(iv) Varying nature of wants

Wants vary with time, place and person. They are also influenced by many factors like income, customs, fashion, advertisement etc. For example, we want medicines only when we are sick. Ice is needed in summer season only. We need woollens even in summer at a place like Sri nagar. Similarly, people have started using things like T.V.

Sets, mobile phones, car and many other luxury goods due to increase in their income and change in fashion. Thus, wants have been found to vary and to multiply with the economic development of a country.

(v) Present wants are more important than future wants:

Present wants are more important. A person uses most of his limited resources for the satisfaction of present wants. He does not worry much about his future wants because future is uncertain and less urgent. For example, providing for the education of children in the present is more important than providing for old age security in future.

(vi) Wants change and expand with development

A simple example to show how wants are changing is the telephone. Earlier, in the rural areas there were not many telephones, but today telephone has become a necessity for everybody for keeping in touch with their near and dear ones. People using telephone earlier, are now using mobile phones. They want more and more facilities in their mobile phones such as, Camera, Internet and so on.



INTEXT QUESTIONS 2.1

1. How does a desire differ from a want?
2. Give one example to show that wants arise and grow.
3. Why are all wants not satiable?
4. State any two characteristics of wants.
5. When does a desire become a want?

2.5 HOW RESOURCES SATISFY WANTS

As stated earlier wants are satisfied with the use of goods and services. To produce these goods and services, resources are used. With ever growing wants, we have been making greater use of resources. Resource may be natural or man-made. All resources can be classified into land, labour, capital and entrepreneurship. For example, for the production of wheat, we use land, labour, tractor pump set etc. (capital). Farmer (entrepreneur) organizes all these factors to produce wheat. He also uses seeds, manure and fertilizers in this process. Thus, production of wheat involves the use of resources. Similarly, production of all other goods & services also involves the use of resources. Are the resources unlimited like our wants? The answer is 'no'. The resources that we use to satisfy our endless wants are limited/scarce. With the development, new goods



Notes



are invented which lead to increase in our wants. But the resources do not increase accordingly. This may lead to exhaust our resources.

2.6 ECONOMIC AND NON-ECONOMIC WANTS

We have so far learnt that wants are unlimited. They differ from person to person. As you know many of our wants are satisfied by using certain goods, and services. These goods and services are purchased from the market by paying a price. **The wants that can be satisfied by such goods and services are called economic wants.**

A few things that we want, are not purchased from the market by paying a price. Such wants are called non-economic wants. For example, we want air to breathe, rain water for agriculture etc. When we want a maid to cook, it is our economic want. But if the food is cooked by mother, it becomes non-economic want.



INTEXT QUESTIONS 2.2

1. Name the resources used in the production of wheat.
2. Which one of the following is scarce in supply?
 - (a) Resources
 - (b) Wants
3. Give any two examples of economic wants.
4. Give any two examples of non-economic wants.

2.7 WANTS EXPAND AND CHANGE WITH DEVELOPMENT

In ancient times, man was satisfied with simple items of food, clothing and shelter etc. But with the development these wants grew in nature and number. Our want for food we eat has changed. We want to eat not only better and nutritious food but different varieties of food. Similarly we want to wear not only a pair of clothes but we want variety as well as latest designs according to the fashion. We want to have a better house with modern facilities like, air conditioners, geysers etc. you all know that for communication we not only want a simple telephone but also a mobile phones having many facilities like camera, internet, video recording etc. Thus, man's evergrowing and changing wants lead to many inventions and discoveries which result in new and better quality of goods and services.

2.8 INDIAN PHILOSOPHY OF LIMITING WANTS

As we all know our wants are unlimited but our resources to satisfy these wants are limited. Hence if we keep our wants as unlimited and growing, we will not be able to

satisfy all of them with our limited resources. This will give rise to a lot of dissatisfaction. But on the other hand, if we limit our wants we will be able to satisfy most of them with our limited resources and this will give us more and more satisfaction. The Indian philosophy has always been to limit our wants so that we feel satisfied in life. This helps us to lead a happy life as we do not have to suffer any unhappiness due to unfulfilled wants.

Even the father of our nation, Gandhiji always advocated controlling of one's wants so that we can have a satisfied life and we do not have to indulge into wrong deeds or practices to satisfy unlimited wants out of our limited resources. There have been many great thinkers who have advocated the same.

**Notes****INTEXT QUESTIONS 2.3**

1. What is the Indian philosophy related to the satisfaction of wants with limited resources?
2. Give one example of communication system to prove that wants change and expand with development.

**WHAT YOU HAVE LEARNT**

- The desires which are backed by money and willingness to purchase, may be called wants.
- Wants are satisfied with the use of goods and services
- Economic wants are satisfied by using goods and services purchased from the market by paying a price.
- Non-economic wants are satisfied by using goods and services which are not purchased from the market by paying a price.
- With the discovery and new inventions, new wants arise and grow.
- Some wants may be necessary for the existence of life. These are necessities.
- Wants, which make our life easy and comfortable, are called comforts.
- Some wants give us pleasure but they are satisfied by costly goods are called luxuries.
- Although a single want is satiable, all wants can not be satisfied due to the scarcity of resources.



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- Some most important characteristics of wants are :
wants are unlimited, a single want is satiable, some wants arise again and again, wants vary with time, place and person. Present wants are more important than future wants, wants change and expand with development,
- Wants change and expand with development
- Indian philosophy is to limit our wants to get more and more satisfaction.



TERMINAL EXERCISE

1. Give any two examples showing the conversion of desires into want.
2. How do wants arise and grow? Explain with the help of an example.
3. All wants can not be satisfied? Explain why?
4. State any four main characteristics of wants.
5. Prove with an example that present wants are more important than future wants.
6. How do the resources satisfy the wants.
7. Distinguish between economic and non-economic wants.
8. ‘Wants expand and change with development’ explain.
9. Why should we limit our wants?



ANSWER TO INTEXT QUESTIONS

Intext Questions 2.1

1. The desires which are backed by money and willingness to purchase are called wants.
2. With the discovery of fire man started cooking food which led to the increase of a large variety of food items.
3. All wants are not satiable because of scarcity of resources.
4. (i) wants are unlimited
(ii) Some wants arise again and again
5. A desire becomes a want when it is backed by money and willingness to purchase.

Intext Questions 2.2

1. Land, labour, capital (machinery), seeds, manures, fertilizers etc.
2. (a)
3. (i) Pen (ii) Book
4. (i) Air to breath (ii) Rain water for agriculture



3

GOODS AND SERVICES

You have learnt that human wants are unlimited and insatiable. Now the question is, how many of our wants can be satisfied and how they can be satisfied.

Human wants are satisfied by goods and services, which are carried through various economic activities. In this lesson you will learn about the terms goods and services, types of goods and services and significance of goods and services in relation to production, consumption, investment and human wants.



OBJECTIVES

After completing this lesson, you will be able to:

- *explain the terms goods and services;*
- *identify various types of goods and services;*
- *distinguish between goods and services;*
- *understand the basis for different types of goods and services;*
- *know about free and economic goods and services;*
- *make out the difference between consumer and producer goods and services;*
- *explain how goods can be single use and durable use;*
- *differentiate between public goods and private goods.*

3.1 GOODS AND SERVICES

In our daily life, we come across variety of goods and services. When we are hungry, we take food. When we are thirsty, we take water. In a similar way we need many goods such as pen and paper to write, house to live in, chairs to sit, a washing machine to wash



the clothes,, a television to watch the programmes etc. All these are the examples of goods that satisfy our wants.

But goods alone are not sufficient to fulfill our wants. We need the services of different people for different jobs. For example we require a hairdresser to cut our hair, a doctor to cure us, a tailor to stitch our clothes, a cobbler for mending our shoes etc. These are a few examples of services that satisfy our wants. Both goods and services satisfy human wants. These goods and services are as diverse as our wants.

3.2 DISTINCTION BETWEEN GOODS AND SERVICES

Now that we know that both goods and services are important to satisfy human wants, let us understand how both are different from each other. The main points of distinction are:

Goods

1. Goods are tangible in nature i.e. they can be seen and touched.
2. There is a time gap between production and consumption of goods as they are produced first and consumed later.
3. They can be stored and utilized when required.
4. They can be transferred from one place to another.

Let us take example of any one good, say chair. You can see a chair and can also touch it. The carpenter first makes it in his workshop. You use it after purchasing it from the market. So there is a time gap between production of chair and its consumption. If suppose you do not require that chair immediately you can keep it in your store and can use it when you require it. You can even give it or sell it to another person.

Services

1. Services are non-tangible in nature i.e. they can neither be seen nor be touched.
2. There is no time gap between the production and consumption of services. That is why they are produced and consumed simultaneously.
3. Services cannot be stored.
4. Transfer of service is not possible.

Let us consider the example of services of a doctor. The doctor examines a patient and writes the medicines. Now he has delivered a service (for the treatment of the patient), which we cannot see or touch. The moment he examines the patient, he has delivered his services which is also consumed by the patient. So there is no time gap between production and consumption of services. Now this service cannot be stored or transferred.



INTEXT QUESTIONS 3.1

1. Which of the following items are goods.
 - (a) Car
 - (b) Cell phone
 - (c) Transportation of passengers
 - (d) Mending of shoes
2. Out of the following, which are the characteristics of a good.
 - (a) Goods can be seen or touched
 - (b) Goods cannot be transferred
 - (c) There is no time gap between the production and consumption of goods
3. Out of the following, which are the characteristics of services
 - (a) Services can be seen or touched
 - (b) There is no time gap between production and consumption of services
 - (c) Services can be stored
4. Human wants are satisfied by consuming.
 - (a) Goods
 - (b) Services
 - (c) Both goods and services
 - (d) None of the above

3.3 CLASSIFICATION OF GOODS AND SERVICES

We know that different types of enterprises produce different types of goods and services. It is not possible to study them individually; therefore to understand them properly we have to classify them in a number of broad groups. This classification can be done in many ways. This classification helps us to understand the relative economic significance of different goods. We will study the following classifications:

1. Free goods and economic goods.
2. Free services and economic services.
3. Consumer goods and producer goods.
4. Consumer services and producer services.
5. Single use goods and durable use goods.
6. Private goods and public goods.



Notes



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1. Free goods and economic goods

Let us assume that you are in a desert. If you fill a bag with sand, you need not pay any price. But otherwise in a city, you have to pay for it. This example helps us to differentiate a free good from an economic good. Free goods are free gifts of nature. They are available in abundance i.e. in unlimited quantity and the supply is much more than the demand. You don't have to pay anything to get them. That is why they are called free goods. In short we can define free goods as goods which possess utility but which are not scarce.

In our daily life, we use toothpaste, soap, shaving cream, footwear, bread etc. These goods are man made and their supply is not unlimited. Similarly we use machines, buses, table, chair, books, fans, television etc. They too are man made and their supply is not unlimited. We use water for various purposes at home, sand for construction and different minerals in different forms. Now these are not man made but free gifts of nature. But because they are scarce i.e. their demand is more than their supply, they command a price and are not freely available. They are the economic goods.

Economic goods are those goods (manmade or free gifts of nature) whose demand is more than supply. They command a price and they can be bought in the market.

2. Free services and economic services

In case of services too, there are free services and economic services. Free services are those, which cannot be bought in the market and which are rendered due to love, affection etc. For example services of parents for their children. All those services, which can be bought in the market, are economic services such as services of doctors, engineers etc. The rest of the classification of goods and services deal only with economic goods and services.

3. Consumer goods and Producer goods

This classification is based on the purpose for which a particular good is used. Consumer goods are those goods, which satisfy the want of consumer directly. They are goods, which are used for consumption. For example bread, fruits, milk, clothes etc.

Producer goods are those goods, which satisfy the want of consumers indirectly. As they help in producing other goods, they are known as producer goods. For example machinery, tools, raw materials, seeds, manure and tractor etc are all example of producer goods.

3a. Intermediate goods

Raw materials, power, fuels etc. used by the producers for further production of final goods and services are also called intermediate goods. Example : Wheat flour is an intermediate good in the production of bread in the bakery.



Notes

4. Consumer's services and producer's services

Here too the basis of classification is the same as that of goods. When the consumers or the households directly use services, they are known as consumer services. For example services of a tailor stitching your shirt or services of a doctor giving you the treatment or services of a plumber repairing your leaking tap, etc.

Producer services on the other hand are used to produce other goods and services, which are in turn demanded by the consumers. In other words producer services satisfy the human wants indirectly. For example a tailor stitches a shirt for a readymade garment shop, an electrician repairs fault in the electric supply in a production unit or even a truck-transporting raw material to a factory.

5. Single use and durable use goods

All types of goods whether consumer goods or the producer goods are further classified into single use and durable use goods. Single use goods are those goods, which can be used only once. They are finished only in one use. For example bread, butter, egg, milk etc are the single use consumer goods as they are consumed immediately and once for all. Similarly single use producer goods are exhausted in one production process. For example coal, raw material, seeds, manure etc. To elaborate it further let us take the example of production of sugar. Here the raw material is sugarcane, which is used only once.

Durable use goods are those goods, which can be used again and again for a long period of time. There are durable use consumer goods as well as durable use producer goods. Durable use consumer goods are cloth, furniture, television, scooter etc. that can be used by consumer again and again. Durable use producer goods are used in production again and again for example, machines, tools, tractors and implements etc. this does not mean that repeated use of these goods does not make any difference to them. In fact the value of these goods gets depreciated after continuous use.

6. Private goods and public goods

Goods can be classified on the basis of their ownership. All goods that are privately owned and are exclusively enjoyed by individuals are called private goods. For example all the goods owned by you are private goods. This includes your watch, pen, scooter, books, table, chair, bed, clothes etc. If you own a factory then its building, machinery; tools etc are your private goods.

Public goods are those goods, which are owned and enjoyed by the society as a whole. For example roads, bridges, park, town hall etc. are all collectively owned. They are available to all people in a society without any discrimination, i.e. no one is denied from the consumption of public goods. Both government and private entrepreneurs may produce public goods.



Notes



INTEXT QUESTIONS 3.2

Which of the following are correct?

1. Economic goods are-
 - (a) Those which are scarce
 - (b) Those which have a price
 - (c) Those which are scarce and also have a price
2. Consumer goods are those goods –
 - (a) Which help in further production
 - (b) Which satisfy the human wants directly
 - (c) None of these
3. Examples of producer goods are-
 - (a) Machinery
 - (b) Tractors
 - (c) Bread
 - (d) Raw material
4. Which of the following statements are correct?
 - (a) Free goods are those goods whose supply is more than the demand.
 - (b) Single use goods are those goods, which are used one for all.
 - (c) Durable use goods can be used again and again.
 - (d) Public goods are those goods, which are collectively owned.

3.4 ROLE AND SIGNIFICANCE OF GOODS AND SERVICES IN AN ECONOMY

Goods and services have a multidimensional role to play in an economy. Their role can be stated in relation to-

1. Human wants

You have studied that human wants are unlimited and they are also ever increasing. It means if the availability of different goods and services like clothes, shoes, furniture,

utensils, television, scooter, fruits, vegetable, food grains and services of doctor, plumber, electrician etc increases, it will satisfy more human wants.

2. Production

We require consumer goods and services to satisfy increasing human wants. But this increase in availability of consumer goods and services depends on the increased availability of producer goods and services. We can produce more if we have more and better machinery, raw material, tractors, seeds, manure etc. similarly we require more of transportation services, banking and insurance services. Thus it is the quantity and quality of producer's goods and services that will determine the availability of consumer goods and services in the market.

3. Investment

Increase in the production of goods and services will also determine the level of investment. Given the quantity of goods and services, a part of it is consumed, which satisfies the human wants. Whatever is not consumed is used for further production and it results in capital formation in the economy. If the production of goods and services is more, it is likely that the consumption will be more and the investment will also be more. The larger is the surplus, the larger is the productive capacity of the economy.



INTEXT QUESTIONS 3.3

Write true or false against each of the following statements

1. Consumption of goods and services helps in the satisfaction of human wants. []
2. Availability of goods and services depends on the availability of producer goods. []
3. More production results in more consumption and more investment. []



WHAT YOU HAVE LEARNT

- Human wants are unlimited. Goods and services can satisfy them.
- Free goods are those goods which are available in unlimited quantity and do not command a price in the market.
- Economic goods are limited in supply in relation to their demand. They also command a price in the market.



Notes

**Notes**

- Free services are rendered out of love, affection etc. They cannot be bought in the market.
- Economic services are the services, which can be bought in the market.
- Consumer goods are those goods, which satisfy consumer's want directly.
- Both consumer goods and producer goods are further classified into single use and durable use goods depending upon the number of times that good is used. If used only once, it is single use and if used again and again it is durable use good.
- Consumer services satisfy the wants of consumers directly whereas producer services help in the further production of goods and services.
- Quality and quantity of goods and services determine the level of production, investment, consumption and satisfaction of human wants.

**TERMINAL EXERCISE**

1. Distinguish between goods and services.
2. Distinguish between economic goods and free goods.
3. Distinguish between consumer goods and producer goods.
4. Distinguish between single use and durable use goods.
5. What is the role and significance of goods and services in an economy?

**ANSWERS TO INTEXT QUESTIONS****Intext Questions 3.1**

1. a, b 2. a 3. b 4. c

Intext Questions 3.2

1. c 2. b 3. a, b, d 4. a, b, c, d

Intext Questions 3.3

1. True 2. True 3. True

MODULE-2
ABOUT ECONOMY

4. Economy – Its Meaning and Types
5. Central Problems of an Economy
6. Basic Economic Activities



4

ECONOMY – ITS MEANING AND TYPES

The purpose of every economy is to satisfy human wants by using limited or scarce resources available and known to a society. These wants can be satisfied by production and consumption of goods and services. For production, the factors of production are engaged in some economic activities. These economic activities bring income to the economic agents that can either be consumed or saved and invested. On account of these gainful economic activities and accumulated earnings, some countries grow fast while others cannot attain such high growth rate. As a result some economies attain the status of developed economies while others remain underdeveloped or developing economies. They are also known as rich and poor economies. We can look at economies on the basis of ownership of resources. The resources available may be in private ownership or the collective ownership. Thus there are different ways to look at the economy and its level of development. In this lesson we will explain all these terms in simple way so that you may understand and differentiate the meaning and nature of an economy and understand its various types.



OBJECTIVES

After completing this lesson, you will be able to:

- *explain the meaning of an economy;*
- *differentiate between various types of economic organizations on the basis of ownership and control of resources as well as on the basis of level of development;*
- *understand the meaning of economic development and economic growth;*
- *distinguish between economic development and economic growth;*
- *understand the important determinants of economic development.*



Notes

4.1 MEANING OF AN ECONOMY

An economy is a man-made organization for the satisfaction of human wants. According to A.J. Brown, “An economy is a system by which people get living”. The way man attempts to get a living differs in major respects from time to time and from place to place. In primitive times ‘get a living’ was simple but with growth of civilization it has become much more complex. Here it is important to note that the way person earns his/her living must be legal and fair. Unfair and illegal means such as robbery, smuggling may earn income for oneself but should not be taken into consideration as gainful economic activity or a system of ‘get a living’. **It will therefore be appropriate to call that economy is a framework where all economic activities are carried out.**

Some of the salient features of an economy are as follows:

1. Economic institutions are man made. Thus an economy is what we make it.
2. Economic institutions can be created, destroyed, replaced or changed. For example the capitalism was replaced by communism in 1917 in USSR and the communism was destroyed in 1989 through a series of economic reforms by former USSR. In India after independence in 1947 through economic and social reforms we abolished Zamindari system and introduced many land reform.
3. Levels of economic activities keep on changing.
4. Producers and consumers are the same persons. Thus they have a dual role. As producers they work and produce certain goods and services and consume the same as consumers.
5. Production, consumption and investment are the vital processes of an economy.
6. In modern complex economies we use money as a medium, of exchange.
7. Now-a-days the government intervention in the economy is considered undesirable and the preference for free functioning of prices and market forces is increasing in all types of economic system.

4.2 TYPES OF ECONOMIES

As you know that economy is a man-made organization, which is created, destroyed or changed as per the requirement of the society. We can differentiate in various types of economic systems on the basis of following criteria.

4.2.1 On the Basis of Ownership and Control over Means of Production or Resources

Resources or means of production remain either in private ownership with full individual freedom to use them for the profit motive or they can be in collective ownership



(government control) and can be used for the collective welfare of the society as a whole. Based on the criterion of degree of individual freedom and profit motive, economies are labelled as:

- (A) Capitalist or free enterprise economy
- (B) Socialist or centrally planned economy
- (C) Mixed economy

Now we shall discuss about the main characteristics of these economics in brief.

(A) Capitalist Economy

The capitalist or free enterprise economy is the oldest form of economy. Earlier economists supported the policy of ‘laissez fair’ meaning leave free. They advocated minimum government intervention in the economic activities. The following are the main features of a capitalist economy;

(i) Private property

In a capitalism system all the individuals have the right to own property. An individual can acquire property and use it for the benefit of his own family. There is no restriction on the ownership of land, machines, mines, factories and to earn profit and accumulate wealth. After the death of a person the property or wealth is transferred to the legal heirs. Thus the institution of private property is sustained over time by the right of inheritance.

(ii) Freedom of enterprise

In a capitalist economy the government does not coordinate production decisions of the citizens. Individuals are free to choose any occupation. Freedom of enterprise implies that business firms are free to acquire resources and use them in the production of any good or service. The firms are also free to sell their product in the markets of their choice. A worker is free to choose his/her employer. In small business units owner himself takes the risk of production and earns profit or loss for himself. But in modern corporations the shareholders take risks whereas paid directors manage business. Thus the individual supervision of one’s own capital is now no longer required to earn profit. Government or any other agency does not impose restrictions/obstacles in the way of workers to enter or leave a particular industry. A worker chooses that occupation where his income is maximum.

(iii) Consumer’s Sovereignty

In a capitalist economy consumers are like a king. They have the full freedom to spend their income on goods and services that give them maximum satisfaction. In capitalist system production is guided by consumer’s choices. This freedom of consumers is called consumer’s sovereignty.



Notes

(iv) Profit Motive

Self-interest is the guiding principle in capitalism. Entrepreneurs know that they will own the profit or loss after the payment to all other factors of production. Therefore they are always motivated to maximize their residual profit by minimizing cost and maximizing revenue. This makes the capitalist economy an efficient and self-regulated economy.

(v) Competition

There are no restrictions on the entry and exit of firms in a capitalism system. The large number of producers are available to supply a particular good or service and therefore no firm can earn more than normal profit. Competition is the fundamental feature of capitalist economy and essential to safeguard against consumer's exploitation. Although due to large-size and product distinction monopolistic tendencies have grown these days still the competition can be seen among a large number of firms.

(vi) Importance of markets and prices

The important features of capitalism like private property, freedom of choice, profit motive and competition make a room for free and efficient functioning of price mechanism. Capitalism is essentially a market economy where every commodity has a price. The forces of demand and supply in an industry determine this price. Firms which are able to adjust at a given price earn normal profit and those who fail to do so often quit the industry. A producer will produce those goods, which give him more profit.

(vii) Absence of government interference

In a free enterprise or capitalist economy the price system plays an important role of coordinating agent. Government intervention and support is not required. The role of government is to help in free and efficient functioning of the markets.

Capitalism in today's world

Pure capitalism is not seen in the world now-a-days. The economies of USA, UK, France, Netherland, Spain, Portugal, Australia ect. are known as capitalistic countries with active role of their respective government in economic development.

(B) Socialist Economy

In the socialist or centrally planned economies all the productive resources are owned and controlled by the government in the overall interest of the society. A central planning authority takes the decisions. The socialist economy has the following main features.

(i) Collective Ownership of means of Production

In a Socialist economy means of production are owned by the government on behalf of the people. The institution of private property is abolished and no individual is allowed to own any production unit and accumulate wealth and transfer it to their heirs. However, people may own some durable consumer goods for their personal use.



Notes

(ii) Social Welfare Objective

The decisions are taken by the government at macro level with the objective of maximization of social welfare in mind rather than maximization of individual profit. The forces of demand and supply do not play any important role. Careful decisions are taken with the welfare objectives in mind.

(iii) Central Planning

Economic planning is an essential feature of a socialist economy. The Central Planning Authority keeping the national priorities and availability of resources in mind allocates resources. Government takes all economic decisions regarding production, consumption and investment keeping in mind the present and future needs. The planning authorities fix targets for various sectors and ensure efficient utilization of resources.

(iv) Reduction in Inequalities

The institutions of private property and inheritance are at the root of inequalities of income and wealth in a capitalist economy. By abolishing these twin institutions a socialist economic system is able to reduce the inequalities of incomes. It is important to note that perfect equality in income and wealth is neither desirable nor practicable.

(v) No class conflict

In capitalist economy the interests of the workers and management are different. Both of them want to maximize their own individual profit or earnings. This results in class conflict in capitalist economy. In socialism there is no competition among classes. Every person is a worker so there is no class conflict. All are co-workers.

Socialism in today's world

Countries such as Russia, China and many eastern European countries are said to be socialist countries. But they are changing now and encouraging liberalisation in their countries for their economic development.

(C) Mixed Economy

A mixed economy combines the best features of capitalism and socialism. Thus mixed economy has some elements of both free enterprise or capitalist economy as well as a government controlled socialist economy. The public and private sectors co-exist in mixed economies. The main characteristics of a mixed economy are as follows:

(i) Co-existence of public and private sectors.

The private sector consists of production units that are owned privately and work on the basis of profit motive. The public sector consists of production units owned by the government and works on the basis of social welfare. The areas of economic activities of each sector are generally demarcated. Government uses its various policies e.g. licensing policy, taxation policy, price policy, monetary policy and fiscal policy to control and regulate the private sector.



Notes

(ii) Individual Freedom

Individuals take up economic activities to maximize their personal income. They are free to choose any occupation and consume as per their choice. But producers are not given the freedom to exploit consumers and labourers. Government puts some restrictions keeping in mind the welfare of the people. For instance, government may put restrictions on the production and consumption of harmful goods. But within rules, regulations and restrictions imposed by the government, for the welfare of the society the private sector enjoys complete freedom.

(iii) Economic Planning

The government prepares long-term plans and decides the roles to be played by the private and public sectors in the development of the economy. The public sector is under direct control of the government as such production targets and plans are formulated for them directly. The private sector is provided encouragement, incentives, support and subsidies to work as per national priorities.

(iv) Price Mechanism

Prices play a significant role in the allocation of resources. For some sectors the policy of administered prices is adopted. Government also provides price subsidies to help the target group. The aim of the government is to maximize the welfare of the masses. For those who can not afford to purchase the goods at market prices, government makes the goods available either free of cost or at below market (subsidized) prices.

Thus in a mixed economy people at large enjoy individual freedom and government support to protect the interests of weaker sections of the society.

Indian economy is considered a mixed economy as it has well defined areas for functioning of public and private sectors and economic planning. Even countries such as USA, UK, etc. which were known as capitalistic countries are also called mixed economies now because of active role of their government in economic development.



INTEXT QUESTIONS 4.1

1. Which of the following statements are True or False?
 - (i) On the basis of ownership of resources we can classify an economy as Rich economy and Poor economy.
 - (ii) Socialist economy aims at maximization of social welfare.
 - (iii) Freedom of choice, profit maximization and private property are the characteristics of a Socialist economy.
 - (iv) In a mixed economy public and private sectors co exist.
2. Fill in the blanks with appropriate words given in the bracket.
 - (i) Price mechanism plays role in capitalist or free market economy (the most important/a very limited)



- (ii) The freedom of choice is called in capitalist economy (consumers sovereignty/consumer surplus)
- (iii) The socialist economies are economies. (centrally planned decentralized)
- (iv) People can accumulate wealth and transfer it to their legal heirs in economy. (capitalist/socialist)
- (v) Public sector and private sector in a mixed economy (co-exist/does not exist)

3. Classify the following characteristics of different types of economies and put them in appropriate boxes.

Profit motive, central planning, consumer sovereignty, public and private sector, laws of inheritance, social welfare, government regulations, subsidy, competition, price mechanism, inequalities, no class conflict, economic planning and limited freedom of choice.

Capitalist
Economy

Socialist
Economy

Mixed
Economy

4.2.2 Types of Economics on the Basis of Level of Development

On the basis of level of development economies can be classified in two categories:

- (i) Developed economy
- (ii) Developing economy

The countries are labeled developed or rich and developing or poor on the basis of real national and per capita income and standard of living of its population. Developed countries have higher national and per-capita income, high rate of capital formation i.e. high savings and investment. They have highly educated human resources, better civic facilities, health and sanitation facilities, low birth rate, low death rate, low infant mortality, developed industrial and social infrastructures and a strong financial and capital market. In short, developed countries have high standard of living.

Developing countries are low on the ladder of development. They are sometimes also called underdeveloped, backward or poor countries. But economists prefer to call them developing countries because it gives a sense of dynamism. The national and per capita income is low in these countries. They have backward agricultural and industrial sectors with low savings, investment and capital formation. Although these countries have export earnings but generally they export primary agricultural products. In short, they have low standard of living and poor health and sanitation, high infant mortality, high birth



and death rates and poor infrastructure. Thus economic development depends on many factors and has different meanings. Although you have already read, it will be useful to discuss again the meaning of economic development, its determinants and the difference between the terms economic development and economic growth in the context of present lesson.

4.3 MEANING OF ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

Economic growth, as distinguished from economic development, is a sustained increase in national income. Taking the differences in population into consideration, it is reflected in the growth of per-capita income (i.e. national income ÷ total population).

Although there may be year-to-year fluctuations or short-term variations in the growth of national income, there has to be a continuous growth in national income in the long-run for it to qualify as economic growth.

Economic development, on the other hand, includes not only economic growth but also various other economic changes that improve the quality of life or standard of living of people in a country. If with economic growth, a country experiences various economic changes such as reduction in poverty and unemployment, reduction in income and wealth inequality, increase in literacy rate, improvement in health and hygiene, decrease in population growth, improvement in environmental standards etc, that improve the quality of life then that is economic development. Such economic changes that are conducive to improvements in standards of living of people are necessary for economic development. Otherwise, people's standard of living may not improve in spite of economic growth. It may happen that with economic growth, the rich get richer while the poor get poorer if the fruits of growth are snatched by the richer sections of the society. Clearly, economic development is a much broader concept than economic growth. It not only includes economic growth but also various other economic changes that bring about improvement in the standard of living of people or quality of life.

4.4 DETERMINANTS OF ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

The process of economic development is influenced by a number of economic as well as non-economic factors.

The important economic factors are as follows:

- (i) **Natural Resources:** The availability of natural resources facilitate and accelerate economic growth and economic development. It is believed that quality and quantity of natural resources affect the rate of growth.
- (ii) **Human Resources:** Another important determinant of economic development is the quantity and quality of human resources or the population. Other things being



Notes

equal, educated and technically qualified manpower helps in achieving higher growth rate. On the other hand illiterate and unskilled population retards economic growth.

- (iii) **Capital Formation:** Stock of capital goods is crucial for rapid economic growth. For increasing the stock of capital, rate of savings must be high. The savings must be invested. Given the rate of savings and investment the rate of growth will depend upon capital output ratio. If the domestic savings are not sufficient government can seek external assistance to increase capital formation and growth rate in developing countries.
- (iv) **Technology:** Technology can play an important role in the economic development. Technological progress depends upon continuous research and development. Through technological progress a nation may overcome other constraints such as scarcity of natural resources and low productivity. Developed economies invest in its human capital.

Besides these economic factors many other non-economic factors such as (i) caste system, (ii) family type, (iii) racial factors, and (iv) government policies also affect the rate of growth and economic development. It is very difficult to measure economic development and to give one index of economic development. The most commonly used index of economic development i.e. increase in per capita income suffers from a serious drawback. This index does not take into account the consumption of natural resources and environmental degradation such as the smoke from the industries or the pollution caused by various industrial waste and by-products in the air and water resources. The cutting of forest and selling of timber will earn income and will be considered an economic activity and the income added in the national income statistics but the harm caused by deforestation will not be shown as a negative entry in the national accounts statistics. The economist therefore are seriously working on preparation of some new index that may account for these environment costs to the society and can be used as a welfare index of the society.

4.5 DISTINCTION BETWEEN ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND ECONOMIC GROWTH

Economic growth is a short-term measure and generally refers to year to year rise in national and per capita income in real terms. But the income index does not take into account the distributional aspects of national income. Another important thing is that income approach does not take into account the unproductive and dysfunction growth and productive and socially useful growth. Economic development on the other hand is a long term measure over a long period. The economic development refers to overall rise in standard of living and a better quality of life. Besides income index some non-income indices are also taken into account. These are high life expectancy at birth, low



infant mortality and high rate of literacy. An improvement in these non-income indices imply that the quality of life has also improved. Some important institutions like UNESCO and ILO include the basic needs approach such as availability of food, clothing and shelter, availability of drinking water, sanitation and public transport facilities good health and education as an index of economic development. The objective of development, therefore, is meeting the needs of the vast masses of population. The United Nations Development Programmes emphasizes on Human Development Index (HDI) that is based on per capita income, educational attainment and life expectancy. Thus it is a composite index of economic and social indicators. The economic development, therefore, is a much wider term to capture over all improvement in the quality of life of people.

**INTEXT QUESTIONS 4.2**

Answer the following questions.

1. What are the two categories of economy on the basis of level of development?
2. Give simple meaning of economic development.
3. Give economic factors of determinants of development.
4. What are the non-economic factors affecting development?
5. What is the serious drawback in income approach to development?
6. Distinguish between economic growth and economic development.
7. How is capital formation important for economic growth?

**WHAT YOU HAVE LEARNT**

- In this lesson we have learnt the meaning of an economy. It is a system of socially and legally acceptable ways by which people get a living. An economy is also looked at as a system of cooperation for the satisfaction of human wants.
- In a modern complex economy, the cooperation exists in the form ‘you do this for me and I will do that for you is not enough’. The cooperation can be seen across national boundaries. Thus economy can be seen as a system of mutual cooperation and exchanges.
- Economy can be classified into the following three categories on the basis of ownership and control over means of production.



- (i) Capitalist Economy
 - (ii) Socialist Economy
 - (iii) Mixed Economy
- Economy can be classified into the following two categories on the basis of level of development:
 - (i) Developed Economy
 - (ii) Developing Economy
 - Capitalist Economy gives much importance to individual freedom and competition. Consumers behave like a king and play a significant role in the allocation of resources through price system, profit motive and markets.
 - Socialist Economy gives too much importance to collective ownership, society's welfare and economic planning. The inequalities are reduced and class conflict is avoided.
 - Mixed economy gives importance to the merits of both the systems. Here public and private sectors coexist. Public sector works on the basis of socialist economy whereas the private sector works on the basis of capitalist economy.
 - Developed rich countries have higher per capita income and better standard of living and quality of life.
 - Underdeveloped or poor countries on the other hand have low income, savings and investment and therefore they have poor standard of living.
 - The process of economic development is determined by number of economic and non-economic factors.
 - There is a difference between development and economic growth. Generally economic growth refers to short-run improvements in a few selected sectors and variables. The economic development on the other hand refers to long run increase in national and per capita income along with many other non-economy factors that improve overall quality of life.



TERMINAL EXERCISE

1. What is meant by an economy? Give the major characteristics of a capitalist economy.
2. "Economy is a system of mutual cooperation and exchanges." Discuss.



3. Explain the types of economy on the basis of ownership and control over means of production.
4. Distinguishes between economic development and economic growth.
5. What are the main determinants of economic development?



ANSWERS TO INTEXT QUESTIONS

Intext Questions 4.1

1. (i) False (ii) True (iii) False (iv) True
2. (i) the most important (ii) Consumer’s sovereignty (iii) centrally planned
(iv) Capitalist (v) Co-exist
3. Classify the following characteristics

Capitalist Economy	Socialist Economy	Mixed Economy
Profitmotive	Central Planning	Public and Private Sector
Consumer Sovereignty	Social welfare	Government Regulations
Law of inheritance	No class Conflict	Economic planning
Competition		Subsidy, Economic planning
Price mechanism		Limited freedom of choice
Inequalities		

Intext Questions 4.2

1. Developed Economy and Developing Economy
2. Economic development is a process by which an economy’s real national income increases over a long period of time.
3. Natural Resources, Human Resources, Capital Formation, Technology.
4. Caste system, family type, racial
5. It does not take into account the environmental costs and resource depletion.
6. Economic growth is a short term improvement in real income whereas economic development is long run increase in real income plus improvement in overall standard of living and quality of life.
7. Capital formation determines the growth rate given the capital output ratio.



5

CENTRAL PROBLEMS OF AN ECONOMY

As you are aware, we have multiple wants but only limited resources to fulfill them. We need different goods and services to satisfy different wants. But due to scarcity of resources, we cannot produce all the different types of goods and services for everybody in the economy at the same time. Also due to scarcity, we cannot afford to waste the resources. So every economy must find solutions to these problems.



OBJECTIVES

After completing this lesson, you will be able to:

- *understand about the need to make a choice;*
- *know that scarce resources have alternative uses;*
- *be familiar with central problems of an economy;*
- *understand resource allocation in different types of economies;*
- *explain relationship between growth of economy and growth of resources.*

5.1 SCARCITY AND CHOICE

Suppose you want to buy a shirt, a book and a gift for your friend. You also want to watch a movie in a cinema hall. These are a number of wants which are to be satisfied. But you have only Rs.110 with you. Supposing a shirt is available at Rs.150, a book is worth Rs.95, a gift costs Rs. 90 and a movie ticket can be purchased at Rs.100. So together all of them will cost you Rs.435 which you do not have. Obviously, you cannot purchase all the things since you have limited money or resource with you. What will you do? With Rs.110, you cannot buy a shirt as its price is more than the money you have. But you can think of buying either a book



or a gift or a movie ticket. Here you have to make a choice about which one of these things you want to buy.

Why does the problem of choice arise? If you had a magic wand or a magic lamp, you could have had everything to satisfy your wants and the problem of making a choice would not arise. This is an ideal situation, which can never happen. You have only Rs.110 and not Rs.435 which implies that the resources (money in this case) with you are limited or scarce. Since you can buy only one item with your scarce resource, you face the problem of deciding exactly what good is to be bought to satisfy your want. While making a choice as to which one to buy, notice another important thing. That is, resources can be put into alternative uses. How? Even if you cannot buy all of them, you can buy a book or a gift or a movie ticket. So resources can be put to alternative uses.

Similarly, the economy also has to decide what goods and services are to be produced and how resources are to be used. **Thus the issue of 'choice' arises because a) the resources are scarce and b) the resources can be put to many alternative uses.**



INTEXT QUESTIONS 5.1

1. What can be the alternative uses of the following items?
 - (a) A bus
 - (b) A room
 - (c) A building
 - (d) A computer

5.2 CENTRAL PROBLEMS OF AN ECONOMY

We may enlist three major problems facing any economy. These are

1. Problem of Allocation of Resources
2. Problem of Utilization of Resources
3. Problem of Growth of Resources

Let us discuss these issues one by one.

5.2.1 Allocation of Resources

An economy also confronts three fundamental economic problems:

1. What goods and services shall be produced and in what quantities?

2. *How* shall goods and services be produced?
3. *For Whom* goods and services are to be produced?

What goods and services shall be produced and in what quantities? Every society may face similar problem of choice; however the priorities may be different. In less developed economies the choice may be between production of food crops and manufacture of bicycles. In advanced economies the choice may be between building more shopping malls or producing more cars.

How shall goods and services be produced? It is related to the method by which these are to be produced? Once the goods to be produced are decided, there is a problem of how to produce them. What tools are needed, how much land and how many workers are needed. There are many different ways of making things. For example, clothes can be produced by employing more labour and less machines or more machines and less labour. If goods and services are produced by employing more of labour and less of capital, it is known as labour intensive method of production. If goods and services are produced by employing more of capital (machinery etc.), it is called capital intensive method of production.

For Whom goods and services are to be produced? Who is to enjoy and get the benefit of the goods and services produced? It is not possible to satisfy everyone's want due to scarcity, so it must be decided to whose wants are to be satisfied. Should the economy produce more of food crops or more of computers? Whose needs are to be addressed, the poorer people or the richer people? Should everybody get equal share of the total goods and services produced, even if some people may need more than others? All these decisions refer to the distribution of income and wealth in the society.



INTEXT QUESTIONS 5.2

1. Give one reason which gives rise to economic problems?
2. Name the three central problems of an economy.

5.2.1.1 Resource Allocation in a Capitalist Economy

Capitalist economy is an economic system in which factors of production are privately owned and goods and services are produced with the objective of earning maximum profit. In a capitalist (market-oriented) economy, there is no central authority to guide the choice of goods and services. The production is in the hands of individuals - farmers, manufacturers, producers, service providers and others. The resources like land, labour, capital etc. are owned privately by people. All these individuals produce for the market and are guided by profit motive. They produce only those goods which



Notes



Notes

are demanded by the consumers. They try to produce the goods in the cheapest possible way so that they can earn maximum profits. These individual producers will try to move their resources away from producing things which people do not buy, towards the production of goods which people like to buy. The products are meant for the people who demand such products and can afford to buy these.

Rajan is a businessman who produces shirts. He realized that a lot of his shirts remain unsold. He also observed that young boys and girls are wearing t-shirts these days. These young people are willing to spend money now-a-days on t-shirts rather than shirts. As Rajan's profit has started falling, he decides to produce t-shirts, instead of shirts. As his resources are limited, he diverts his resources to the production of t-shirts to satisfy the demands of the young people. Rajan now can produce the t-shirts by employing 2 sewing machines and all his 10 workers. By this process, each t-shirt will cost him Rs. 100/. Another option for Rajan is to produce t-shirts by using 5 machines and only 8 workers, in which case the t-shirt will cost Rs.125/. Rajan will choose the first and cheapest method because he wants to make as much profit as he can by selling his t-shirts. Now Rajan's t-shirts are very popular among the youngsters. He earns higher profits now than what he was earning when he produced shirts. The young people who can afford to pay Rs.100/ are all wearing the t-shirts produced by Rajan.

Thus, the important characteristics of a capitalist economic system are given below:

- Only those goods and services are produced which the consumers want.
- Maximum quantity of goods are produced at the minimum cost per unit.
- Goods and services are produced for everyone who can pay for them.

5.2.1.2 Resource Allocation in a Planned Economic System

In a planned economic system, there is a central planning authority of the government which decides what to produce, how to produce and for whom to produce. The planning authority sets the production targets. The government sets the goals and the firms try to meet the goals. When there is an agreement on the targets, the firms start the production. It is unlike the market economies, where people who have money can satisfy their wants and people who do not have money cannot afford to buy things to satisfy their wants. In a planned system, the government wants everybody to be equal. They produce the goods which everybody needs and can be shared equally by everyone. It is not that people who can afford can have more. At least in case of services like health and education, roads and housing, everyone should get equal opportunity, irrespective of their affordability. Thus in case of planned economies, the government decides to produce the goods and services which it thinks people should have and not what people think they should have. Thus, the government produces goods and services to satisfy the wants of masses.



As the government determines the production of various goods and their quantities, it is possible that the government produces more scooters and tractors whereas the consumers demand car. Regarding how to produce, the central planning authority may not be able to calculate the cost of so many things and there is a danger that resources are not allocated in an ideal manner. A socialist economy solves the problem of whom to produce on the basis of basic needs of people like food, clothing and shelter are sought to be satisfied. Everyone is treated alike and no one gets precedence over the other. It is however said that planned economic system does not allocate the resources in the most ideal manner as it is not based on the choice and preference of people. It is based on the decision of government. However, the system is based on the principle of social welfare.

5.2.1.3 Resource Allocation in a mixed economy

A mixed economic system combines government planning with the free market economy. No economy in the world is totally centrally planned or totally market-oriented. Most of the economies today are mixed economies. In the mixed economic system the choice of goods and services to be produced by the private sector depends on the basis of profit motive. The choice of goods and services to be produced by the government depends on the basis of needs and requirements of the people. It combines the efficiency of production with the justice of distribution; the government owns scarce resources to produce goods and services that they think their country and people need. People and firms in the private sector also own some scarce resources with the aim of making as much money as possible. Thus, mixed economic system attempts to combine the advantages of the market economic system with the advantages of the planned economic system.



INTEXT QUESTIONS 5.3

1. What is the main aim of producing goods and services:
 - (a) In a market economy
 - (b) In a planned economy
2. For whom are the goods are produced in a market economy?

We have discussed that total resources are limited and the resources are capable of producing different commodities. In deciding what to produce and how much, the economy has to take decisions regarding allocation of resources among thousands of different possible commodities. Let us assume that the economy is producing only two commodities, wheat and bicycles. With the limitation of the total resources, if all the resources are utilized in the production of wheat, 20 quintals of wheat can be produced and no production of bicycle will take place. If more and more resources



Notes

are being diverted towards the production of bicycles, little amount will be left for the production of wheat. Similarly if all the resources are being used in the production of bicycles, 100 bicycles can be produced and no resources will be left for the production of wheat.

Table1: Production Possibilities

Production Possibilities	Wheat (quintals)	Bicycles
A	20	0
B	8	30
C	5	60
D	2	75
E	0	100

The above table shows an example of some of the production possibilities of different combinations of two goods, wheat and bicycles. There are only five possibilities. There can be many more possibilities. If some amount of wheat is given up, we can have more of the bicycles; if some bicycles are given up, more of wheat can be produced. Therefore the scarce resources are employed in various combinations to get alternative production possibilities.

5.2.2 Full Utilisation of Resources

The other central problem of an economy relates to full utilisation of resources- land, labour, capital. You have seen that you can have more of bicycles by sacrificing some amount of wheat. If all the resources in the economy are fully employed, then the quantity of one commodity can be increased only by forgoing some quantity of the other. This happens when production takes place efficiently. But in reality, most of the time production does not take place efficiently. The factors are not fully employed and the production is below the optimum capacity of economy. You must have seen some of your family members or friends who are unemployed despite being educated. Similarly in our agricultural land we still grow only one crop in a year. This is not a good sign, as the resources are already scarce. If these scarce resources are also not utilized fully, it is wastage of resources. Thus it is the duty of an economy to ensure that the scarce resources do not remain unutilized or under-utilized.

5.2.3 Growth of Resources

If resources like labour, capital and technology grow over a period of time, the problem of scarcity can be addressed. Thus, for the growth of any economy, the

resources available to the economy should grow. It is only through the effective growth of resources that a society can enjoy a higher standard of living. This is how the countries have developed. If the resources have failed to grow, the countries continue to be underdeveloped. Thus, the economies should make efforts so that their resources grow gradually to meet the growing needs.



Notes



INTEXT QUESTIONS 5.4

1. Give one example of under utilization of resources.
2. Give two examples of growth of resources.



WHAT HAVE YOU LEARNT

- The issue of ‘choice’ arises, because a) the resources are scarce and b) the resources can be put to many alternative uses.
- An economy confronts three fundamental economic problems, **what** goods and services to produce, **how** to produce and **for whom** to produce.
- Capitalist economy is an economic system in which factors of production are privately owned and goods and services are produced with the objective of earning maximum profit.
- In a planned economic system, there is a central planning authority of the government which decides what to produce, how to produce and for whom to produce.
- A mixed economic system combines government planning with the free market economy.
- For the growth of any economy, the resources available to the economy like labour, capital and technology should grow.
- If all the resources in the economy are fully employed, then the quantity of one commodity can be increased only by forgoing the quantity of other. This happens when production takes places efficiently.
- If the scarce resources are also not utilized fully, it is wastage of resources. Thus it is the duty of an economy to ensure that the scarce resources do not remain unutilized or under-utilised.



Notes



TERMINAL EXERCISE

Choose the write answers in Q1 and Q2

1. Central problem of an economy arise, because:
 - I. Many goods are sold in market
 - II. Government makes decisions
 - III. Shortage of labour
 - IV. Multiplicity of wants and scarcity of resources
2. Choice is fundamental to economic behavior, because:
 - I. People find it difficult to choose what they want
 - II. Resources are scarce in relation to people's wants
 - III. People behave rationally
 - IV. Price of a commodity depends on choice
3. Explain how scarcity and choice go together?
4. Why it is said that free market economy ensures most efficient allocation of resources?
5. Explain the three central problems with one suitable example of each.



ANSWERS TO INTEXT QUESTIONS

Intext Question 5.2

1. Scarcity of resources.
2. (i) what to produce, (ii) how to produce, (iii) for whom to produce.

Intext Questions 5.3

1. (i) Profit motive.
(ii) To satisfy the wants of masses.
2. Who can pay for it?

Intext Questions 5.4

1. Unemployment of labour.
2. Increase in the number of skilled and unskilled workers through population growth.



6

BASIC ECONOMIC ACTIVITIES

Production, consumption and capital formation are called the basic economic activities of an economy. Scarce resources are used in the production of goods and services with the objective of satisfying our needs and wants. The process of production of goods and services is carried by combining the factors like land, labour, capital and entrepreneurship. Factors are paid rent, wages, interest and profits for their productive services. The consumption activity consists of the use of goods and services for the direct satisfaction of individual or collective human wants. A part of current production is saved for future to add to existing capital stock like, plant, machinery, building etc. every year in order to expand production potential in future. So whatever is produced is disposed of either for consumption or for capital formation or both.



OBJECTIVES

After completing this lesson, you will be able to:

- *understand production and its goals;*
- *know the factors of production and factor incomes;*
- *know about consumption;*
- *be familiar with the goods produced for consumption;*
- *understand how production and consumption help in capital formation;*
- *explain circular flow of economic activities.*

6.1 PRODUCTION

In the last lesson you have read about scarcity of resources and making choice. These scarce resources are used in the production of goods and services. The goal of



production is to satisfy our wants. These goods and services produced can be sold in markets or can be provided by the government to public at nominal charge. Therefore Production is defined as creation of utility.

Production activities involve making of goods and services. People who make and sell these goods and services are known as producers. The producers combine the factors like land, labour, capital and entrepreneurship along with raw materials in order to transform them into various goods and services. **Land, labour, capital and entrepreneurship are called the factors of production.** The producers try to produce maximum amount of goods and services by using various combination of factors of production. Let us know more about these factors of production.

6.1.1 Land

Land is a gift of nature. It includes plain region, mountains and plateau region. The plain region is useful for agriculture and industrial activities. Mountains ensure flow of rivers into the plain region and provide facilities for tourism. Plateau region possesses reserves of minerals, fossil fuels and forests. Production of food grains, vegetables, fruits etc require agricultural land in the plain region. Along with this people also carry out animal husbandry, fisheries and forestry which are called allied activities. In India rural area is known for carrying out agricultural and allied activities. Some amount of land in the plain region is specially developed to establish industries and urban areas such as towns and cities.

6.1.2 Labour

In general labour implies the human effort through physical and mental exertions in the production of goods and services. A person working on the agricultural field is said to provide his physical labour while a writer of a book is said to provide his mental labour. People who provide labour are known as human resources. Production activities require both skilled and unskilled labour. Purely physical labour such as loading and unloading, ploughing on the field etc do not require special skill. But to become an engineer, doctor, teacher, lawyer, mechanic, electrician or tailor etc one must acquire skill through education and training.

6.1.3 Capital

By **capital**, we mean all man made appliances and all types of wealth used in production. Capital consists of machinery, tools, buildings, materials etc. Whereas land is a natural resource, capital is a man made resource. Capital is used to increase the efficiency of other factors of production like land or labour. The efficiency of land can be increased by use of better irrigation facilities and machines. However, capital is a passive factor of production and cannot be used without employing labour to work. Capital has a limited span of life, and becomes obsolete after a certain period. Small tools like, screwdrivers, calculators to heavy machines like engines, tractors,

ships are all examples of **fixed capital**, as they can be used in production for many years. Fixed capital also includes the buildings and heavy machines. The **working capital** includes raw materials like cotton yarn, clay, seeds, fertilizers, which are used-up in the process of production.



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6.1.4 Entrepreneurship

Somebody must take the initiative to start the process of production of goods or services by bringing land, labour and capital together in right proportion. He will be responsible for choosing the right type of land, labour and capital and take important decisions with respect to quantity to be produced, money to be spent to buy the factors and raw materials, marketing the output produced etc. **Entrepreneurship** is the art of organizing the production activity. The person who makes the decisions and controls the production process and bears the risks and uncertainties involved in production is called an **entrepreneur**. He/She should be knowledgeable, courageous and should possess leadership qualities. The objective of an entrepreneur is to get maximum production by using the given resources and make arrangements for the sale of the finished products. He/she is also responsible to make payments to other factors of production.

He/she pays wages to the labourers, rent to the landlords and interest to the owner of capital in return for their productive services. Similarly, they earn profit for their productive activity. **Since these payments, rent, wages, interest and profits are received by the factors for their productive services, they are termed as factor incomes.**



INTEXT QUESTIONS 6.1

- Below is a list of some of the factors that are used to produce shirts. Group them into **natural resources**, **human resources**, **fixed capital** and **working capital**

Yarn, machinery, tailors, land for factory, wooden doors, colour, dye, building, sewing machines, telephones, marketing managers, advertising managers, packaging machines, scissors, buttons, bank loans, cash money

- Which one of the following is not a characteristic of land:
 - Mobile
 - Gift of nature
 - Limited in quantity
 - Indestructible



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6.2 FACTOR INCOMES

These factors of production are owned by people. Land is owned by the landlord, labour is owned by labourer, capital is owned by people who acquire capital goods, entrepreneurship is owned by the entrepreneur. The owners of factors of production are paid in return for their productive services. When you hire a piece of land, you pay rent to the landlord for using the services of land. Thus the tenant pays rent for the services of land. Labour refers to the services rendered by the workers. It refers to the all types of workers, manual labour, technical workers and so on. When an employer requires the services rendered by a worker, he/she is ready to pay for his services. By hiring a worker, actually his services are hired. When a loan is taken from a bank to buy a tractor, seeds, machinery etc. interest is paid to bank. Thus, rent is paid to the landlords, wages to the labourers, interest to the owners of capital resources and profit to the entrepreneurs. Since they are paid in return to their productive services, they are called factor payments and their incomes are called factor incomes.



INTEXT QUESTIONS 6.2

Ram Singh is farmer in a village of Haryana, who owns 2 hectares of land. Both, he and his wife Rani, work in the field. Earlier, they only grew paddy on their land. Now they want to increase the productivity of their land by growing two crops and better variety of seeds and irrigation. They want to grow two crops, paddy and potatoes. For this they need money to buy good quality seeds and fertilizers. As they do not have enough money, both work in other's farms as labourer. They spend some money on the fertilizers, seeds, pump sets etc. After working very hard, they manage to have a good crop of both paddy and potato. They keep some paddy and potato grown in their farm for their personal use and sell the rest. They earn Rs. 12,000 by selling their crops.

- Identify the factors of production in this story?
- What are the capital goods used in this example?

6.3 CONSUMPTION

The objective of production is to produce goods and services for consumption. The consumption activity consists of the use of goods and services for the direct satisfaction of individual or collective human wants or needs. To satisfy their wants the households purchase a large variety of goods and services like cycles, furniture, television set, car, refrigerator, food grains, milk, oil, soap etc. and services like



Notes

barber, teacher, doctor, bank and insurance companies etc. There is no time gap between the production and consumption of services. In case of services production and consumption take place simultaneously. They are consumed as soon as they are produced, such as the services of doctors, lawyers, teachers etc. As you visit a doctor to take medical advice, you consume his service. This is not the case with regard to goods. There is a time gap between the production and consumption of goods. Goods are considered to be consumed when they are purchased. However, certain durable goods like furniture, cycles etc. continue to provide services for many years, still they are considered to be consumed as soon as they are purchased.

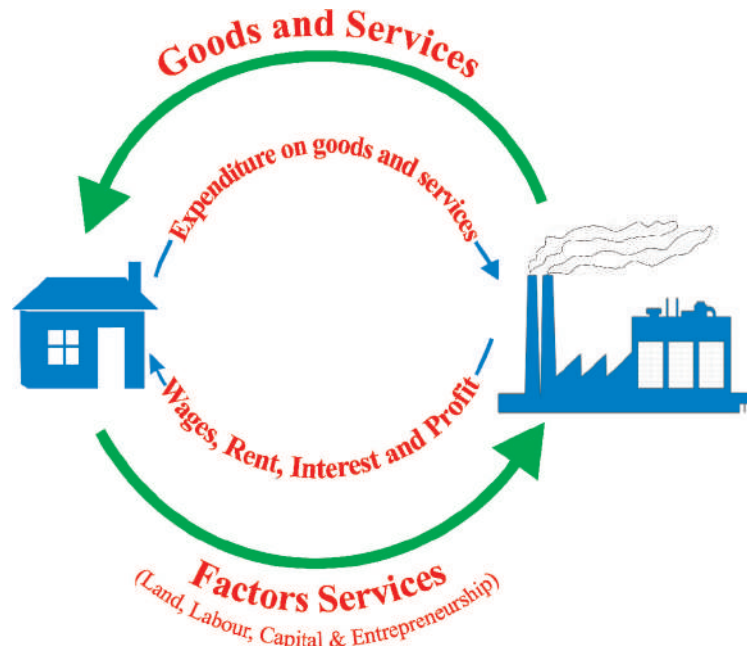
6.4 CAPITAL FORMATION

The third important activity of an economy is capital formation. As you have read, factor owners get factor incomes in return for their productive services. They spend a large part of their incomes on goods and services such as food articles, cloth, furniture, housing, bicycles, education, health care etc. However, they do not spend their entire income on these goods and services. They also save some income and deposit it in bank for future. For example, if an individual has an income of Rs. 500/ all of which she consumes, there is no saving. Instead if she restricts her consumption to Rs.300/, she saves Rs.200/ and may use this money to deposit in bank for future use. The bank, in turn, may use this money to lend an industrialist to invest in the expansion of his business. Capital formation is done by refraining from present consumption. It should be noted that saving, if kept idle, cannot constitute capital formation. If a person saves money and locks up in the house, no capital formation takes place. If only the saved money is invested in capital goods it leads to capital formation by facilitating production and consumption in future. Thus, current consumption is forgone and used towards adding to existing capital stock like, plant, machinery, building etc. every year in order to expand production potential in future. This increase in the stock of capital goods in a year is called capital formation or investment. Similarly, a part of nation's output is devoted not to immediate satisfaction of consumer wants but to the provision of plants and equipments by which production is maintained and expanded. To sum up, whatever is produced is disposed of either for consumption or for capital formation or both.

These three activities, production, consumption and capital formation are inter-related. An increase in the production of goods and services increases the level of consumption and capital formation. Increase in consumption is an indicator of rising standard of living of people and increase in capital formation is very important as the growth of the country depends on it. More consumption is possible if there is more production and more production is possible if there is more capital formation. Thus, the three economic activities have their impact on one-another to take the economy forward to the path of development.



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Circular Flow Chart



INTEXT QUESTIONS: 6.3

1. Give two examples of durable goods, non-durable goods and services.
2. There is an excess of production over consumption in a year. Where does it go?
3. How does production facilitate consumption and capital formation?



WHAT HAVE YOU LEARNT

- Production, consumption and capital formation are three basic economic activities.
- Production is defined as creation of utility.
- Land, labour, capital and entrepreneurship are four factors of production.
- Wages, interest, rent and profits are the factor payments made by the firm to the owners of factors of production. For the owners of the factor services the same are called factor incomes.
- Consumption means using up of goods and services for direct satisfaction of individual and collective wants.
- Capital formation is the surplus of production over consumption over a period of time.



TERMINAL EXERCISE

1. An agricultural land is a fixed resource. How can its productivity be increased?
2. How can the productivity of labour be increased?
3. What are the main functions of an entrepreneur?
4. How does capital add to the productivity of labour?
5. If there is an excess of production over consumption in a year, where does it go? Also mention two goods which help in capital formation in an economy.
6. Mention the three important economic activities and show their inter-relationship diagrammatically.
7. Purchase of a cycle by a household is treated as:
 - (a) Capital formation
 - (b) Production by household
 - (c) Consumption
 - (d) Production for self consumption
8. Which of the following statements are true or false:
 - (a) Capital formation increases the capital of a country.
 - (b) Growing vegetables in the kitchen garden is not a part of production.
 - (c) A farmer producing wheat for self consumption is a part of production.
 - (d) A teacher teaching in school is production.
 - (e) A student using stationery is production.
 - (f) Digging a well by the members of a family in their own field is a part of capital formation.
 - (g) A truck transporting wheat from a village to the market in the nearby town is a part of production.
9. Fill in the blanks:
 - (a) Roads constructed by the government are (production/ capital formation).
 - (b) Purchase of a tractor by a farmer is a part of (production/ consumption).



Notes



- (c) A new house purchased by an individual is(consumption/production).
- (d) A doctor seeing a patient is (production/consumption).
- (e) A student studying in a school is (production/consumption).

**ANSWERS TO INTEXT QUESTIONS****Intext Questions 6.1**

1. Natural resources – Land for factory

Human resources – Tailors, Marketing managers, Advertising managers.

Fixed capital – Machinery, wooden doors, buildings, sewing machines, telephones, packaging machines, and scissors.

Working capital- yarn, dye, buttons, bank loan, cash money.

2. a.

Intext Questions 6.3

1. Durable goods: Television, refrigerator, washing machine etc.

Non-durable goods: Bread, butter, milk, flour.

Services: Barber’s services, services of teacher, services of a doctor.

2. It goes to capital formation.
3. An increase in production of goods and services increases the level of consumption and capital formation. More consumption is possible only when there is more production and more capital formation is possible only when production is more than consumption.

MODULE-3

PRODUCING GOODS AND SERVICES

7. Production
8. Cost and Revenue



14

MONEY AND ITS ROLE

The word “money” generates a lot of interest. In today’s busy life money has occupied a very important role. We need money to buy various types of goods in order to satisfy our wants. Similarly, we need money to avail various services such as- transport, communication, education, health, entertainment, home deliveries and so on. As a buyer, we pay money to buy goods and services and as a seller, we receive money by selling them. Normally, we pay or receive money in the form of paper currency and coins. But do you know that in ancient days people used to exchange good for good? This was called barter system. With passing of time, money replaced barter system. Why? To know all these continue reading this lesson.



OBJECTIVES

After completing this lesson, you will be able to:

- *understand the meaning of barter system;*
- *realize the need for money by the society;*
- *explain the functions of money;*
- *know paper currency and coins as types of money.*

14.1 BARTER SYSTEM

In the past when people were living in small societies and there was not much development as you see today, they were helping each other through barter system to mutually benefit one another. What is the meaning of barter system? **Barter system means exchange of one kind of goods and services for another kind of goods and services. There was no involvement of money in barter system.**



When one good is exchanged for another good without use of money, we call it trade through barter system. This was happening in ancient civilizations.

Some examples of Barter System are given below.

- (a) In the past traders from Europe used to trade goods such as fur and crafts in return for perfumes and silk from the Eastern part of the world.
- (b) In many tribal societies in India families used to exchange labour services in return for food and other labour services. For example, if a family needs labourers to harvest crop then another family would come to provide the service with the promise that it will get the same type of help in return either for harvesting crop or roofing house etc. This type of practice is still prevalent today in remote tribal areas of India.
- (c) People in various occupations, namely, farmers, artisans, cobblers, carpenters etc. used to exchange their products and services among themselves.



INTEXT QUESTIONS 14.1

1. Define barter system?
2. Give two examples of barter system?

14.2 NEED FOR MONEY

The barter system as described above is not prevalent now. In today's world nobody pays any good in exchange of another good. Everybody pays money to buy goods and services. So the following question arises - Why is the barter system not prevalent now? Why did the need for money arise? The answers to these questions lie in the fact that the barter system has many demerits as described below.

14.2.1 Demerits of barter System

The demerits of barter system are as follows.

1. A common problem with the barter system is **the lack of double coincidence of wants**. What does this mean? Double coincidence of wants mean that if one wants to exchange some good with another person then the latter must also be willing to exchange his good with the first person. Take for example, a person wants cloth and he has rice with him to offer in return. Then he can exchange rice for cloth with another person who has cloth and who also wants rice. In practical life, such situation may or may not arise. If the person who has cloth does not want rice, then exchange of rice for cloth will never take place and both the individuals cannot



Notes

satisfy their wants. This is an example of lack of double coincidence of wants. So barter system will work when there is double coincident of wants, otherwise it will not work.

A related problem of barter system was that, one had to spend lot of time in searching for the person who was ready to exchange. However, in the early period of human civilization this was a very difficult task as there was no proper facility with regard to transport and communication.

2. **Lack of division of goods:** Certain goods are not physically divisible into small pieces. Suppose, a person possesses a cow and he wants items, such as cloth, food grains etc. Then how much of cow can be traded for cloth; how much of cow can be traded for food grains? It was very difficult to determine because, a cow cannot be divided into several pieces.
3. **Because of lack of divisibility of goods:** under barter system, it was difficult to equate the values of different goods which were traded because of **lack of common unit of measurement**. Taking the example in the previous paragraph, it will be very difficult to determine the amount of cow required to trade for some specific amount of food grains, or some yards of cloth. Also it sounds absurd. This happens because a cow can never become a common measure of value. This problem is same for all other goods.
4. Another problem of barter system is that a person must **store** a large volume of his own good in order to exchange for his/her desired goods with others on day to day basis.. Take the example of a farmer who has produced wheat. Obviously he will use some amount of wheat for his own consumption and keep some amount to get other necessary items by trading with others. If he wants furniture, then he will go to a carpenter who is willing to trade furniture in return of his wheat. Similarly, if he wants cloth, then he has to trade with a weaver who is ready to give cloth by receiving wheat and so on. So the farmer must construct a warehouse first to keep a stock of his wheat in order to carry out the transactions at the time of need for his desired good. But constructing and maintaining a warehouse was itself a very difficult task in early days of civilization.
5. Finally, a major problem of barter system is that, a good loses its original quality and value if it is stored for a long period. Many goods, such as salt, vegetables etc, are perishable. Hence, goods were never accepted for trading in future because they could not be used as store of value. This also implies that no good could be used for the purpose of lending and borrowing.

Due to above problems, the barter system could not continue for long. As human civilization progressed people realized that there has to be some common medium of exchange which can be easily carried, stored, and used to express value of a good. So money came into being. Hence the need for money arose due to the failure of barter system.



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INTEXT QUESTIONS 14.2

1. Define double coincidence of wants?
2. Give two difficulties associated with barter system?

14.3 DEFINITION AND FUNCTIONS OF MONEY

Money is defined as something which is generally accepted by the society as a medium of exchange and which can act as unit of account, can store value and be used for repayment of debt.

The functions of money can be known from its definition. They are given below.

1. Medium of Exchange

The primary function of money is that it acts as a medium of exchange. This means that people can buy or sell goods and services with the help of money. Money is received by the seller who sells the good. Money is paid by the buyer who buys the good from the seller.

Example: You pay Rs. 10 to buy a pen. The seller receives Rs. 10 from you by selling the pen. So a pen is exchanged for Rs. 10.

2. Measure of Value

Another fundamental function of money is that it serves as unit of account or common measure of value. The value of a good is determined by multiplying its price with quantity sold in the market. Since the price is expressed in monetary units, the value of a good is also expressed in monetary term.

Example: Let price of rice be Rs. 20 per Kilogram. One bag full of rice weighs 25 Kilograms. Then the value of the bag of rice is $Rs. 20 \times 25 = Rs. 500$

3. Store of Value

Money also acts as store of value. How? As medium of exchange you can pay money to buy goods. This means if you have money, you have the power to purchase a good or a service. So money has purchasing power. The value of the good is contained in that purchasing power. Hence value of good is indirectly stored in money you hold. Similarly as a seller of good you receive the money which means value of good you sold comes back to you through money.

Example: Sushila has got some mangoes which she sells to a buyer for Rs. 250. This means a value of Rs. 250 was exchanged. The buyer, who purchased the mangoes, has the purchasing power to give Rs. 250 as value. Hence a value of



Rs. 250 was stored in the money received by Sushila as a seller. Sushila could not have stored mangoes but she can definitely store money which has stored the value of Rs. 250.

4. Making Payments in Future

We all indulge in lending and borrowing activities. Suppose, your friend requests you to give him Rs. 300 to purchase a book because he does not have any money at present. He promises to pay back the money after a week. If you agree with this and actually give him the money, then you will be called lender and your friend will be called borrower. As a lender, you can also charge some interest on the money you have lent to your friend. If you charge no interest, then your friend will pay you Rs.300 after a week. If you charge Re. 1 as interest, then your friend will have to give you Rs.301 after a week. Like your friend, there are many people who want to borrow money today to satisfy their present needs with the condition that they will settle the payment along with interest at some future date as agreed with the lender. This payment in future is acceptable in money only. We can also say that the borrower has deferred the payment under certain condition. So money has acted as a standard of deferred payment. Let us think for a while, that, your friend gives you the book which he purchased, instead of Rs.300 or 301. Then, will you accept this? Most probably not. Because after a week the book may have lost some value as it has not remained the same new book. But money will always be acceptable in a future date as it has stored the value.



INTEXT QUESTIONS 14.3

1. Define “medium of exchange”?
2. Give the meaning of value of good?

14.4 TYPES OF MONEY

14.4.1 Paper currency and coins

How money looks like? What is the form of money? Over the years the form of money has changed. You must have read in history that during the days of Kings, people used to trade by using gold coins, silver coins, copper coins etc. Before that, in the ancient days, in some places people used to hold money in the form of cattle, salt etc.

Now a days, no body holds cattle or salt to buy or sell goods and services. Keeping cattle is not feasible as it requires huge space and special environment. Salt is perishable and cannot be stored for a long time for the purpose of exchange. Hence after so many

MODULE - 5

Money, Banking and Insurance



Notes

Money and its Role

experiments over centuries, now people keep money in the form of paper notes and coins which are easy to carry. In India, we have paper notes in the denomination of 1, 2, 5, 10, 20, 50, 100, 500 and 1000. Normally they are called currency notes and named as Rupee (Singular) or Rupees (Plural). The symbol of Rupee is '₹'.

Money is paid by buyer or received by seller in the form of currency notes. For smaller denominations, we have coins called "Paisa", such as 50 paisa where 50 paisa is equal to half of one rupee. Now coins up to Rs. 10 denominations are in circulation in India.

You should know that the currency notes and coins which are in circulation are guaranteed by government of India. Otherwise anybody can make and misuse them.

Remember that currency notes and coins of India are valid only in India and not in other countries. Every country has its own currency. If you visit other countries, then you have to exchange Indian currency with the currency of the country you are visiting. The name of the currency of some of the countries of the world is given below.

- (a) Currency in USA is called dollar with symbol \$.
- (b) The European currency is called euro having symbol €.
- (c) Currency in United Kingdom is called pound having symbol £.
- (d) In Japan the currency is called Yen having symbol ¥.



INTEXT QUESTION 14.4

1. Give the meaning of currency note?



ACTIVITY

Make a list giving names of the currencies of France, Germany, China, Brazil.



WHAT YOU HAVE LEARNT

- Before money was invented people used to exchange goods for goods which was called barter system.

- There were many problems of barter system such as absence of a common measure of value, lack of double coincidence of wants, lack of space to store goods to exchange them for other goods etc. This prompted human society to discover money.
- The functions of money include medium of exchange, measure of value, store of value and used in making future payments.
- Money is exchanged in the form of paper currency notes and coins.



TERMINAL EXERCISE

1. Explain the working of barter system?
2. What are the main demerits of barter system?
3. Define money and state three of its functions?
4. Write a short note on currency notes in India?



ANSWERS TO INTEXT QUESTIONS

Intext Questions 14.1

1. Exchange of good for good is called barter system.
2. (i) 10 kg of wheat for 5 kg of sugar.
(ii) 8 kg of rice for a pair of shoes.

Intext Questions 14.2

1. Mutual exchange of goods between two persons.
2. (i) Lack of double coincident of wants (ii) lack of store of value.

Intext Questions 14.3

1. Anything which is generally acceptable for buying and selling goods and services.
2. Value of good = Price of the good × Quantity of the good.

Intext Questions 14.4

1. Currency note is a type of money.





BANKING AND CREDIT

Money and banking go together. They are complementary to each other. So after studying 'money' we must study banking. A 'Bank' is a very important institution in the modern society. Note that when society realised the benefits of using money as a medium of exchange, it also felt the need to store money in a safe place. This 'safe place' ultimately evolved over time into a bank, which deals with money in various ways. People make visit to a bank for various purposes; such as- to deposit their surplus money, to withdraw money from their account in order to make payments in cash, to take loan etc. In the economy banks play a very important role of facilitating the production, distribution and business activities.



OBJECTIVES

After completing this lesson, you will be able to:

- *understand the meaning of a Bank and Banking;*
- *explain functions of a Bank;*
- *understand the meaning of credit and the process of credit creation;*
- *distinguish between various types of banks in India.*

15.1 MEANING OF BANK AND BANKING

A bank is an institution which accepts money from public as deposits and gives loans to them. Banking refers to accepting for the purpose of lending or investment of deposits of money from the public, payable on demand or otherwise and withdrawable by cheque, draft, order or otherwise.

15.2 FUNCTIONS OF A BANK

From the meaning as given above the functions of a bank are clearly understood. The primary functions of a bank are as follows :

1. Accepting deposits from public
2. Giving Loans.

PICTURES OF LOGOS OF SOME BANKS



Notes

15.2.1 Accepting Deposits from Public

A bank accepts monetary deposits from public which include individuals, groups, business firms etc.

It should be noted that when some body wants to deposit money in the bank, the bank accepts the money by opening an account in the name of the depositor. The bank gives an account number to the depositor. Whenever the depositor wants to deposit money again he or she has to mention the account number so that the bank will keep that money in that account. If the depositor withdraws money from his / her account then the bank deducts that money from the depositor's account. On the other hand, bank gives interest on certain types of deposits of the public.

Note that, the bank issues cheque books to its depositors. Cheques are used by the depositors to withdraw money from the bank and making payments to any party through the bank.

15.2.2 Giving Loans

The bank gives loans to public who want to borrow and who has the capability to repay that loan amount in future. What does this mean? For this we have to first know, as to why do people borrow? People borrow money because they want to buy some thing today or do some business for which there is not enough money with them at present. But they have the ability to repay that money in future. Goods, such as, television, refrigerator, washing machine, car etc are expensive items. Similarly, purchase or construction of house requires lots of money. For all these things, bank provides a loan. Bank also gives loan to start business.

15.2.3 Keeping Valuable Materials

There is another function performed by a bank. The bank also keeps valuable things of people such as jewellery, property documents etc. Normally, people want to keep valuables in safe custody which is provided by the bank in the form of 'locker facility'.

**INTEXT QUESTIONS 15.1**

1. Name an institution in which someone can deposit surplus money?
2. Name any two purposes for which a loan can be sanctioned by a bank?

**ACTIVITY 15.1**

Visit a bank with your parents and enquire about the ways in which that bank helps people and what all it does?

15.3 MEANING OF CREDIT

Credit is defined as the claim to receive payments. When a bank gives loans to people, then the bank becomes a lender and the person who takes loan from the bank is called a borrower. When bank gives loan today it also makes arrangements to recover the same from the person in future. This means that the bank can claim the money from the borrower in future. Accordingly, the bank is able to expand its deposits. This is called credit creation by the bank. So we can say that credit is created through the act of lending and borrowing.

15.4 THE PROCESS OF CREDIT CREATION

Now the following question arises – How does a bank create credit? Or to say in other words, where from does a bank arrange the money in order to give loan to others and how much of loan or credit it can create? We provide the answer below.

We know that a bank accepts money from public as deposits. Normally these deposits are supposed to be returned back to the public if they want to withdraw them. So if all the persons, who have deposited money in the bank, withdraw their total money, then bank will be left with no money at all. But such things normally do not happen.

From common experience it has been observed that once somebody deposits money in the bank, he/she doesn't withdraw it at once. Mostly, people withdraw a smaller amount from their deposit whenever they require and leave the rest of the amount with the bank. To make this possible, the bank always keeps some fraction of its total deposits in the form of cash from which it keeps giving money to people who come to withdraw it. This fraction is given in percentage term. What percentage of the total deposit has to be kept as cash? Well, this is decided by the banking authority of the country. The cash amount is kept as reserve for making cash payments to



public who come to the bank to withdraw money. We call the fraction of the total deposit to be kept in the form of cash as **cash reserve ratio**. Once the bank calculates the amount to be kept as cash on the basis of cash reserve ratio, it deducts the amount from the total deposits and uses the rest of the amount to give loans to the borrowers. With this act of the bank, the process of credit creation starts from here. Let us describe the process of credit creation step by step through the following example.

15.4.1 Steps in Credit Creation

To make things simple, let us think that there is only one bank in the economy.

Let the banking authority has decided that the cash reserve ratio is 20 percent. So, the bank must keep 20 percent of its current deposit in the form of cash to make cash payments to persons who come to withdraw money.

Step 1. A person called A, deposits Rs.100 in the bank. As a result the bank's deposits increases by Rs.100. As per rule the bank keeps 20% of 100 as cash. This comes out to be Rs.20. So the bank keeps Rs.20 to make cash payments. Now deduct 20 from 100. $100 - 20 = 80$. So the bank can use Rs.80 to give loan.

Step 2. A person called B approaches the bank to take a loan of Rs.80. After the bank gives this loan, it can claim the amount from B in future. This means that by giving loan to person B, the bank can create another deposit Rs.80.

Now calculate the total deposit with the bank

First, person A deposited Rs.100. By giving loan to B, the bank is able to claim Rs.80. So after two steps the bank has total deposit of Rs.180. i.e $100 + 80 = 180$

Step 3. Another person called C wants a loan from the bank. How much amount of money the bank can give as loan to C? In the previous step we saw that, the bank could increase its deposit by Rs.80 by claiming the amount from B. As per rule it has to keep 20% of 80 as cash before giving further loan to anybody. $20\% \text{ of } 80 = 16$. So the bank will now keep Rs.16 as cash and give the rest of the amount as loan. $80 - 16 = 64$. So the bank can give Rs.64 as loan to C. Again by claiming this amount from C, the bank can create another deposit of Rs.64 in step 3.

Continuing from the previous two steps, we can say that, after three steps the total deposits with the bank has increased upto $180 + 64 = 244$. Or $100 + 80 + 64 = 244$.



Notes

This chain will continue for some time. But when it will come to an end? You know that in each round the bank keeps 20% of the increase in the deposit as cash. You also know that the bank started with an increase in its deposit by Rs.100 in step 1. So the process of credit creation (or increase in deposits) will come to an end when 20% of the deposits of each and every round taken together become 100 itself. Then ask the question, 20% of what amount is 100? The answer is 20% of 500 is 100. This means that in our present example, with initial increase of the bank deposit by Rs.100 and cash reserve ratio of 20 percent, the total credit creation will be Rs.500. There is a link among these three. You know that $20\% = 20/100 = 1/5$. Here, $500 = 100 \times 1/20\% = 100 \times 1/5 = 100 \times 5$. Accordingly we can give the following formula for credit creation

$$\text{Total Credit} = \text{Initial Increase in Deposit} \times 1/\text{Cash Reserve Ratio.}$$

$$500 = 100 \times 1/20\%$$

Also remember another important point. Since the bank deposit is divided into 20% as cash and the rest as loan through various steps, the total deposit of Rs.500 can be divided in the following manner

$$\text{Cash Reserve} = 20\% \text{ of } 500 = \text{Rs.}100$$

$$\text{Loan Amount} = 500 - 100 = \text{Rs.}400$$

Now we can present the various steps (or rounds) of credit creation in the following manner

Steps	Increase in Deposit	Cash Reserve	Loan
1	100	20	80
2	80	16	64
3	64	12.8	51.2
4	51.2	10.24	40.96
5	40.96	8.19	32.77
.....
.....
Total	500	100	400

Finally, remember that, in the process of credit creation two types of deposits are recorded. The first one is called Primary Deposit. Primary deposit is the initial increase in the bank deposit resulted when the bank receives a new deposit from public. In our example given above, primary deposit is Rs.100 deposited by person A in the



Notes

beginning. The second type of deposit is called Secondary Deposit. The deposits created due to the loans given by the bank in each round are called secondary deposits. Credit creation is possible due to the increases in the secondary deposits.

15.4.2 What is the Credit Creation Capacity of a Bank?

The credit creation capacity of a bank depends on the cash reserve ratio. If the cash reserve ratio is higher, then the bank has to keep more cash to make payments to public and accordingly, fewer amounts will be available for giving loans. So less credit will be created. Credit creation will be higher, if the cash reserve ratio is lower. In our above example, total credit was Rs.500, given that the cash reserve ratio was 20% and initial increase in deposit was Rs.100. Now decrease the cash reserve ratio to 10%. As a result total credit will be $100 \times 1/10\% = 100 \times 1/10/100 = 100 \times 10 = \text{Rs. } 1000$.



INTEXT QUESTION 15.2

1. A bank received a deposit of Rs. 200. It gave a loan of Rs.180 to a borrower. What is the cash reserve ratio?
2. In the above question find out the amount of (a) primary deposit, (b) secondary deposit and (c) total deposit?
3. Define credit?

15.5 VARIOUS TYPES OF BANKS IN INDIA

In India there are following types of banks.

1. Reserve bank of India (RBI), which is the central bank of our country.
2. Commercial banks.
3. Cooperative banks.
4. Development banks.

Let us discuss them briefly.

15.5.1 Reserve Bank of India (RBI)

RBI is the head of the banking system in the country. This means that all other banks such as, commercial or cooperative or development banks, follow the rules and regulations made by RBI. Its head quarter is in Mumbai. RBI's main function is to issue currency notes. The paper currency of various denominations such as-2, 5, 10,



50, 100,500 and 1000 are issued by the RBI. You can see the signature of the governor of RBI on these currency notes. The note, bearing the signature of the Governor of RBI is approved by the government so that it can be used for buying and selling goods and services. One rupee notes and coins as well as coins below one rupee are issued by Ministry of Finance, government of India.



Source: mysarkarinaukri.com

Another function of RBI is that it acts as banker to the government. In India both central and state governments take loan from RBI and deposit their money with RBI.

15.5.2 Commercial Banks

Just now we were discussing credit creation. The ‘bank’, which we were talking there, was actually a commercial bank. The functions of a bank which we have discussed earlier are also functions of a commercial bank.

There are some commercial banks which are under the public sector; for example- State Bank of India (SBI), Punjab National Bank (PNB), Bank of India (BOI), Indian Bank, Canara Bank, Bank of Baroda (BOB) etc.

There are other commercial banks which are under private sector such as- ICICI Bank, Yes Bank, HDFC Bank etc. These banks are privately run.

The aim of a commercial bank is to earn profit by charging rate of interest on loans and fees for various services such as issuing draft, transferring money etc.

15.5.3 Cooperative Bank

In India there are many banks which are run by cooperative societies and are governed by the laws of the state in which they are operating. Such banks are of two types - agricultural (or rural) and non - agricultural (or urban).

In rural areas cooperative banks provide credit for farming, cattle, fishery etc. In urban areas the cooperative banks provide credit for self employment activities, small scale industry, purchase of durable goods such as television, refrigerator etc. and personal finance.

Examples of cooperative banks are state cooperative banks, primary agricultural credit societies, urban cooperative banks, land development banks, and district central cooperative banks. These banks may bear different names in different states and areas.

**Notes**

15.5.4 Development Banks

To achieve economic development for the country, investment in industries and infrastructure is required. To make such thing possible there are development banks in India. These banks provide credit for a long period to private business companies and public sector units who want to establish industries and create infrastructure. Some example of development banks are Industrial development bank of India, Industrial Financial corporation of India and State Finance Corporations etc.



INTEXT QUESTIONS 15.3

1. Give one example each of a commercial bank, cooperative bank, and development bank?
2. For which activities, do the cooperative banks provide credit both in rural and urban areas? Give two examples of each.
3. Which is at the head of banking system in India?



WHAT YOU HAVE LEARNT

- Bank is an organization which accepts deposits from public and advances loans to people.
- Bank can increase its deposits by creating credit as lender. Credit means claims to receive payments from the borrowers.
- In India Reserve Bank of India is the head of the banking system.
- The different types of banks which are operating in the country are - commercial banks, cooperative banks and development banks, besides RBI.



TERMINAL EXERCISE

1. Explain two functions of a bank?
2. What is credit? How does a bank create credit?

**Notes**

3. What are the different types of banks in India?
4. Write short notes on the following.
 - (i) RBI
 - (ii) Cooperative Bank
 - (iii) Commercial Bank

**ANSWERS TO INTEXT QUESTIONS****Intext Questions 15.2**

1. 10 percent
2. (a) Rs.200 (b) Rs.180 (c) Rs.380
3. A contractual agreement in which a borrower receives something of value now or at present and agrees to repay the lender at some later date or future date.

Intext Questions 15.3

3. Reserve Bank of India



16

SAVING AND INSURANCE

Apart from production and consumption, saving is also a very important economic activity. We all want to lead our present and future life properly. To do so, we produce things and consume them. But if we consume everything today from our production, then nothing will remain to start the activities tomorrow. That is why it is important to consume less than what we produce today. Saving is necessary to keep continuing our production activities in future. But we also know that future is uncertain and unpredictable. Nobody can tell with certainty as to what will happen to our health, life, property etc in future. They must be properly taken care of, so that, the production and consumption activities are carried out smoothly in future. It is in this context that, insurance is necessary to protect life, health, property etc. against any damage.



OBJECTIVES

After completing this lesson, you will be able to:

- *understand the meaning of and need for saving;*
- *explain the use of saving;*
- *understand the concept of interest;*
- *know the meaning of insurance and its need;*
- *acquaint yourself with Life Insurance, Health Insurance and Automobile Insurance.*

16.1 MEANING OF SAVING

Actually people earn money to fulfill both their present and future needs. If they spend their whole income today then nothing will remain for future and then they won't be



able to satisfy their wants tomorrow. But if there is saving, then it can be used in future. So saving is the amount of income which is carried forward to future after meeting the current expenditure on goods and services and other things. This means that saving is the surplus of income over consumption. We can write that

$$\text{Saving} = \text{Income} - \text{Consumption}$$

Study the table 16.1 given below. The table gives the statement of income and expenditure of a person, say Mr. X, on monthly basis for a year. See that we have started with the month April and ended with the month March. This is because, in India, accounting year spans from April of this year to March of next year.

Table 16.1 Income and Expenditure of Mr. X on monthly basis for last Year

Month	Income (Rs.)	Expenditure (Rs.)	Saving (Rs.)
April	15,500	14,300	1200
May	15,500	15,000	500
June	15,500	15,500	0
July	15,500	15,500	0
August	15,500	15,500	0
September	15,500	15,000	500
October	15,500	14,000	1500
November	15,500	15,500	0
December	15,500	15,000	500
January	15,500	15,300	200
February	15,500	15,400	100
March	15,500	15,000	500
Total	1,86,000	1,81,000	5,000

You see that last year’s total income of Mr. X was Rs.1,86,00. His total expenditure was Rs. 1,81,000. So he saved Rs. 5,000 last year, i.e

$$1,86,000 - 1,81,000 = \text{Rs.}5000$$

Note that, we have taken into account the whole accounting year and not one or two months, to calculate saving. This is because, there are some expenditures which are made towards the end of the year and not necessarily every month. For example, we spend money on food, daily use goods etc. regularly. But expenditure on fees, tax to government etc. are calculated on yearly basis. So, it is better to take income and expenditure of the whole year to calculate saving.



16.2 HOW SAVING IS USEFUL?

Saving is useful in the following ways.

- (i) Start from the last example. Mr. X saved Rs.5000 last year. This implies that, in the beginning of the current year he starts with an extra Rs. 5000. So his income will increase by at least Rs.5000 this year, provided his income and expenditure do not change. This means that, saving increases the future income of the person.
- (ii) Saving can act as a kind of security for future. How? Suppose Mr.X falls ill in the beginning of this year. So he could not go to work for a week. How he can sustain for a week? There is no need to worry. He can always use his last year's saving to carry on for some time till he recovers from illness and start going to work and earn again.



INTEXT QUESTIONS 16.1

1. Define Saving?
2. If income is 1000 and saving is 200 then what is the amount of consumption?

16.3 WHERE YOU KEEP YOUR SAVING

It is a common practice in almost every household that, coins and currency notes of small denominations such as 50 paise, Re.1, Rs. 2 are put in a small saving box. All the members of the household find pleasure in contributing to this mini saving activity. After some time, say a month or some months, when the box is opened, the family finds good amount of money existing in the box which becomes very useful to buy some new thing. It is a kind of tradition for families to have such a saving box.

A family saving box is an informal way of saving. It cannot be used for saving a big amount. It is also not safe to keep money in this manner because of the threat of theft. The money kept in the box also remains idle or unused till the time box is opened. Since it is a private affair, nobody else, except the particular family can use it. Finally, no reward is given in return for saving in this manner.

The most important thing is that, money needs a secured place to be kept. It is also needed for use. It should not be left idle. Think that you have a saving of Rs. 5000. If you do not use it for a long period, then it remains idle and useless like a dead wood. You are neither using it for yourself nor are you allowing anybody. Keeping all these things in mind society has provided institutions where you can keep your savings. They are post offices and commercial banks.



16.3.1 Post Office Savings Bank

Any individual can keep his/her unspent money in post office saving bank. You can find a post office in almost every locality. So it is close to anybody's reach. Any citizen of the country can open an account in his/her name in any post office by depositing a minimum Rs. 50 only. A person can keep money for any period of time and he/she is allowed to withdraw any amount from his/her account at any time subject to the condition that a minimum balance of Rs. 50 is left in the account. A pass book is provided by the post office to keep record of the transactions made by the holder of the account holder. The post office also allows a nominal rate of interest on saving bank account. If a person wants to issue a cheque book, then he/she has to keep a minimum balance of Rs. 500 in his/her account.

16.3.2 Savings Account in Commercial Bank

We have already said that commercial banks accept deposits from the public. An individual who wants to save money can open a saving account in the bank. The minimum amount necessary to open an account and minimum balance to be left after withdrawal of money are prescribed by the concerned bank where the person saves money. Like the post office, a bank also provides a pass book to the depositor which shows details of deposits and withdrawals and the balance available. A commercial bank allows a nominal rate of interest on the saving bank account.

16.4 USES OF SAVING

Savings can be used for the purposes of lending and borrowing as well as development of the economy.

(i) Lending and Borrowing

A person, who saves, can become a lender, because he has surplus money available with him presently. Many people in the society want to consume more than what their present income could allow for various reasons. These people can borrow money at the time of need and repay it in future.

(ii) Development of the Economy

When many individuals save money in post offices and banks, a very large amount of money becomes available for use by the society. We know that small drops taken together make an ocean. Similarly, an individual may be saving very less depending on how much he is earning and how much he is spending. But when many individuals start saving, they are added together to make a large amount. For a society, a large amount of money is required to build roads, office buildings, railway stations, street lights, amusement parks, schools etc. Because of this the whole country is benefited in future. So saving by an individual eventually becomes useful in the process of development of the economy.



Notes

16.5 INTEREST AS RETURN ON SAVING

One can use his/her saving to earn money which is called return on saving. This return is termed as Interest. How does this become possible? We know that a person who has saved money can become a lender by providing that money to a borrower who wants to borrow now. For the use of this saving, the lender can charge some money from the borrower which is called interest earned by the lender and paid by the borrower. Normally the borrower pays back the lender's money (his saving) along with the interest money on a specified future date. Note that when a borrower takes money from a lender, we say that the lender provided loan to the borrower. This means that when a lender gives his/her saving to a borrower then it is converted into a loan. The loan amount has to be returned by the borrower to the lender in future along with interest.

Example: Let Ms. Sarita has a saving of Rs.1000. Mr.Aashish wanted to borrow that money. So Sarita became a lender and Aashish, a borrower. It was decided that, Aashish would have to repay the loan amount of Rs.1000 to Sarita after a year. It was also decided that Ashish will have to pay Rs.120 as interest. Accordingly, after a year, Aashish paid a total sum of Rs.1120 (1000+120) to Sarita. Hence, by lending her saving, Sarita earned Rs.120 as interest on her saving besides getting back the same amount she saved.

16.5.1 Rate of interest

Now a question arises- how much amount did Sarita earn for every 100 Rupees she gave to Aashish?

Ans. Sarita gave Rs.1000 as loan to Aashish for a year.. She earned Rs.120 on this amount. So earning on Rs.100 = $120 \times 100/1000 = \text{Rs.}12$.

Hence Sarita earned Rs.12 per Rs.100 as interest, i.e 12% per year.

When we find value out of 100, we call it percentage. Hence, we can say that Sarita earned at a rate of 12 percent per year. This 12% per year is called the rate of interest paid by the borrower, (Aashish) and received by the lender, (Sarita). Rs.120 is the total interest money on the loan amount of Rs.1000. This loan amount is also called the Principal amount.

Rate of interest is defined as the earning by the lender/payment by the borrower for the use of every 100 Rupees given by the lender to the borrower for a period of one year.

16.5.2

Since people keep their savings in the post offices and banks, they receive interest. The Post office offers around 3.5 percent rate of interest while bank offers around



4 percent rate of interest per year to individuals. When you receive interest on your savings in a post office or bank, your money grows. Hence when money is saved today, it grows to a higher amount tomorrow.

**INTEXT QUESTIONS 16.2**

1. Define rate of interest?
2. Distinguish between lender and borrower?
3. What is the rate of interest if you earn Rs. 20 in a month by lending Rs. 200?

**ACTIVITY**

Visit your nearby post office and enquire about opening of a saving bank account?

16.6 INSURANCE

We are living in a world of uncertainty. This means we do not know what will happen in future. Many things are not in our control. Take the following examples.

- (a) A farmer depends on a good rainfall so that he can produce large quantity of grains. But the farmer has no control over rainfall. If there is good rainfall he gets good crop. But if there is no rainfall there will be drought and the farmer will incur heavy loss.
- (b) People have houses in which they live. But they do not have any control over some untoward incident that may take place, such as fire, theft causing loss to the property.
- (c) Now a days lots of people have automobiles in the form of two wheelers and cars. As the number of vehicles has increased, number of theft cases or accidents on roads has also increased. No body can predict about accidents which cause damage and loss.
- (d) We all fall ill and incur expenditure on medical treatment. No body can predict when illness will come. Due to illness we cannot work. Because of this, we may lose our earnings during the period of illness.

In this way a lot of examples of uncertainties can be given. Interestingly, winning a lottery is also uncertain. This is an unexpected gain. However, the loss of earning



Notes

or damage to property occurring due to uncertainty is a matter of concern. Uncertainty involves risk of loss or damage. We can take precautions to some extent but it is not possible to avoid them totally.

Whoever suffers a loss due to the reasons as said above, he/she would like to be compensated in monetary terms either fully or partially for that loss or damage. Insurance ensures some compensation against loss/damage to the person concerned.

Insurance is just like a good or product. Anybody who thinks that he/ she has some chance to incur loss/ suffer damages to his/her belongings, he/she can have “insurance” by paying some money. The seller of ‘insurance’ is called “insurer” and buyer of insurance is called “insured”. The money paid by the “insured” or buyer of insurance is called “premium”. Normally the premium is paid for a specified number of years. If any loss occurs during this period then the insured person get due compensation from the insurer.

Definition of Insurance

Insurance can be defined as **a financial product which can be purchased to partly or fully recovered any loss happening due to event beyond the control of the insured party.**

Normally the seller of insurance is a insurance company. When the insured person incurs any loss, the insurance company pays back some amount of money to compensate him/her for the loss. This is called insurance claim. Hence insurance allows a person to reduce risk due to uncertainty.



INTEXT QUESTIONS 16.3

1. Differentiate between insurer and insured?
2. Give two examples of uncertainty?
3. Is insurance a product?

16.7 SOME SELECTED INSURANCE PRODUCTS

Let us discuss in brief the following insurance products

- (i) Auto Insurance
- (ii) Health Insurance
- (iii) Life Insurance
- (i) **Auto Insurance**

People who have scooters, bikes, cars etc. can buy auto insurance from a concerned insurance company. Since automobile is a durable good and has a



long life span, say 10 to 15 years, the insurance policy is made in the following way.

- (a) In the first year, the auto is new. So the insurance company charges higher money as premium from the insured person.
- (b) In subsequent years, the vehicle becomes old and its value falls gradually. So the company will charge less premium from the insured person.
- (c) Whenever there is any damage caused to the automobile, the company gives the claim calculated on the basis of terms and conditions mentioned in the insurance policy.

(ii) Health Insurance

Under health insurance scheme, a person who buys this insurance, can get back some amount of money out of his/her total expenditure on medical treatment. In this case also, the insurance company asks the interested person to pay a nominal amount as premium every year. Whenever the insured person falls ill and spends money on medical treatment, the insurance company gives some amount to reduce the burden of the person. Normally the premium is low, if a person buys the health insurance at a younger age. The premium amount increases as the person grows older.

(iii) Life Insurance

A person can buy life insurance for a particular time period. The time period could be 10 or 25 years. Every year the insured person has to pay a certain amount of premium to the insurance company. The company gives back the claim to the person after the time period is over. The amount can also be paid in installments by the insurance company on yearly basis also. If the person dies in between, the claim is given to his/her nominee, whom the person had named while buying life insurance.



WHAT YOU HAVE LEARNT

- Saving is the income which remains after consumption.
- People save for security in future and to earn interest on their saving.
- Lender is the person who has saved money and gives it to borrower as loan at some rate of interest.
- Borrower is the person who borrows money by paying the interest rate.
- People save their money in post offices and banks.
- Insurance is a product which people buy to reduce the risk of loss or damage to their life, health, automobiles etc.



TERMINAL EXERCISE

1. Define saving? Give two of its uses?
2. How saving is calculated? Why do people save?
3. Write a short note on post office saving bank?
4. Why people buy insurance?
5. Explain auto insurance?
6. Distinguish between health and life insurance?



Notes



ANSWERS TO INTEXT QUESTIONS

Intext Questions 16.1

1. Saving is defined as surplus of income over consumption.
2. 800

Intext Questions 16.2

1. Rate of interest is the payment made by the borrower for use of every 100 rupees given by the lender for one year.
2. Lender – The person or institution who gives money on loan.
Borrower – The person or institution who takes money on loan from the lender.
3. 120 per cent

Intext Questions 16.3

1. Insurer is the seller of insurance.
Insured is the buyer of insurance.
2. drought, illness
3. yes

MODULE-6
PRESENTATION AND ANALYSIS OF DATA
IN ECONOMICS

17. Collection and Presentation of Data
18. Analysis of Data



19

AN OVERVIEW OF INDIAN ECONOMY

As citizens of India, it is very important for all of you to know about the economy of India. As you also know from history that India became an independent nation on August 15, 1947. Prior to that the Indian subcontinent was under the British rule for nearly two centuries which is a very long period to sufficiently influence every aspect of the country such as- politics, culture, social system, economy etc. We will only concentrate on the study of economy of India here.



OBJECTIVE

After completing this lesson, you will be able to:

- *the state of Indian economy at the time of independence resulted out of two hundred years of British Rule;*
- *the changes in the features of Indian economy after achieving independence;*
- *understanding of Economic reforms.*

19.1 STATE OF THE INDIAN ECONOMY AT THE TIME OF INDEPENDENCE

India inherited the economy from the British who were ruling this country for their gain. The British were never interested in the development of India or its citizens. Their aim was to exploit the resources of India and take away as much as possible to England. This is the reason why railway lines were laid so that things can be transported to port areas for shipment to England. Even if construction of railways was a positive contribution, it was mostly used to serve the British interest.

At the end of British period some notable economic features were as follows:

- (i) Decline of handicrafts industry



Notes

- (ii) Production of cash crops
- (iii) Famines and food shortage
- (iv) Rise of intermediaries in agriculture

Let us discuss these points one by one.

19.1.1 Decline of Handicraft Industry

Before the British came to India, Emperors and kings were ruling this land. They promoted the interest of local artisans, carpenters, artists, weavers etc. who were very good at making beautiful paintings, decorating walls, designing textiles and jewelry, tailoring, making furniture, toys and idols of stones and metals etc. These people were using their labour and local skills to create these things. A lot of concentration and long time was required to create such things. The Kings' courts in various parts of the country were full of decorative items of various types made of different materials. But when the British came they defeated the Kings and took over their kingdoms. Towns were destroyed and with this the handicraft industry was also faced closure.

An important part of Indian handicraft were the textile handicrafts. In the latter half 19th century England was experiencing changes in production technology. Machine was replacing human labour to produce goods. Producing goods at large scale was becoming easier. More factories were coming up. The British could bring their machine made textiles and sell in India at a cheaper price and also in large quantities. The British government also made policies to help the British producers only. So Indian handicraft suffered.



INTEXT QUESTION 19.1

1. Compare the methods of production of Indian textile handicrafts with that of the British.



ACTIVITY

Visit a museum / historical palace and study the handicrafts of those days.

19.1.2 Production of Cash Crops

As said above, England was under going change in terms of industrialization so factories there were in need of raw materials to produce goods. In order to make textiles raw



Notes

cotton was needed. Similarly indigo was in high demand to make prints on textiles. Also jute, sugarcane, ground nuts were all in great demand in England as they were all needed in factories there. Since these were all cultivated in India, the British offered money to poor farmers of India to raise these crops so that they could send them to England. Since these crops are used in factories as raw materials to produce goods, they are called cash crops.

Attracted by money, Indian farmers grew these cash crops for the British who supplied them to factories in England. The factory made goods were sent for sale in the Indian market. Now the British sold these goods to Indian people and made profit.

19.1.3 Famines and Shortage of Food

The worst part of British rule in India had been the frequent occurrences of famines. Famine is a situation wherein many people do not get food to eat and die from hunger and diseases. Famine occurred nearly 33 times during whole British period. The most devastating famine was the Bengal famine of 1943, just four years before independence. More than 1.5 million people died at this time due to lack of food. Some reasons for occurrence of famines were as follows:

- (i) Bad rainfall upsetting food grain production since irrigation facilities were not available. Agriculture was dependent on rainfall.
- (ii) British government kept on exporting food grains to its native country England and elsewhere even if there was local need for these things. British government was only interested in earning revenue for itself by exporting food grains to other countries. It also used food grains to feed its soldiers who were fighting wars in different parts of the world. You know that the British had not only captured India, but also many other countries of the world. So they were sending food from India to these countries where their soldiers were fighting to capture territories.
- (iii) Poor people had not enough money to purchase food grains from the market.
- (iv) As said above, Indian farmers were encouraged to produce cash crops on their fields. This led to fall in production of food grains because less area was available for their cultivation.



INTEXT QUESTIONS 19.2

1. Give the meaning of famine?
2. Why were the British exporting food grains?



Notes

**ACTIVITY**

Make a list of cash crops and food grains.

19.1.4 Intermediaries in Agriculture

Agriculture was major occupation of people of India during British rule. More than 70 percent of the population was dependent on agriculture. So it was the major source of revenue for the government. The British introduced two types of land revenue, such as:

- (i) Permanent settlement under which land revenue to be collected was permanently fixed.
- (ii) Temporary settlement under which land revenue was changed after 25-30 years of time.

In order to collect revenue the British appointed Zamindars in eastern part of India, Mahalwari in western part and Ryotwari in south India. These persons were called intermediaries because they used to act between British Government and common people. Their job was to collect revenue in the form of rent, tax etc from the villagers, farmers and other households and submit that revenue with the government. Over the years these people became exploiters of common people as they mercilessly collected revenue without considering their poor status. Similarly no mercy was shown even during poor harvest due to bad rain fall or floods. Out of the total revenue collected from the villagers these intermediaries used to keep a part of it before depositing with the British government. Besides collection of land revenue the British government also depended on them for running the administration. In this way the Zamindars, Mahalwaris and Ryotwaris became mini rulers in their respective areas. They used force to take away belongings of persons who failed to give revenue. This way these intermediaries became rich and powerful at the cost of common man and with the blessings of British government.

**INTEXT QUESTIONS 19.3**

1. Distinguish between Permanent and temporary settlement?
2. Write three sentences about the Zamindars?

19.2 POSITIVE CONTRIBUTION OF BRITISH RULE

Some positive things did happen during British period. The Railways you see today was first introduced by the British government in 1850. Between 1850-1855 the first

jute mill, the first cotton mill and the first coal mine were established. In the later years the length of Railway lines and the number of the above said mills kept increasing. The British government also established telecommunication, telegraph, post offices in the country.



Notes

19.3 CHANGES IN THE FEATURES OF INDIAN ECONOMY AFTER INDEPENDENCE

A new era began in India's history after its independence. Obviously so, because the governance of India became the responsibility of its people. Unlike the British government, the aim of the government of India was to take India towards the higher levels of development and achieve welfare for all its citizens. By the year 2010, the government of India has completed more than sixty years of governing India. This is long enough time to make an evaluation and accordingly describe the major features of Indian economy which are as follows

Low level of per capita income, slow growth of per capita income, Heavy population pressure, Existence of Poverty, Dependence on agriculture and Planning for Development

Let us discuss them one by one in the following way.

1. Low level of per capita income

Per capita income is calculated by dividing national income by population. Income of an individual is a major indicator of his or her standard of living. Per capita income gives the idea of income earned on an average by an individual in the economy in a year. India's per capita income for the year 2009-10 was Rs. 33731. This comes out to be around Rs 2811 per month. (i.e. $33731/12 = 2811$).

This amount is very low to lead a decent life. A person needs a room to live, cloths and dress materials to wear and food to eat. All these things have to be purchased from the market by paying some price. Even if a person has his or her parental house to stay where he / she does not pay rent, still he / she needs to buy clothes and food for him / her self. Since price of food grains, vegetables, clothes etc. are high so you think Rs.2811 is sufficient to meet these expenditures?



ACTIVITY

Go to the market and find out the prices of rice, wheat flour, potato and onions. Estimate the amount of these goods, you consumed in the last month? Then find out the expenditure on these goods? Similarly find the expenditure on these goods by your family? Then think what should be income to meet their expenditure?



Notes

2. Slow growth of per capita income

India’s per capita income is not only low but also growing very slowly. Growth refers to increase over time. Why we want our income to increase every year? There are a few reasons for it .

First, our wants are increasing, as we grow over time. In order to satisfy the extra wants, we need more income. Take for example your own case. Don’t you want to watch a movie in a cinema hall; don’t you want to wear nice dresses; don’t you want to eat in a hotel; don’t you want to watch IPL cricket match in a stadium; don’t you want to study in a college; don’t you want a mobile phone for yourself etc. The list could go endless. But these things are not available free of cost. So you need more income than before to satisfy these wants.

Second, another reason for earning more income is that the prices of goods you buy in the market are also increasing. So you may have to pay more money for the same goods and services you consume. Recently the prices of petrol and diesel were increased. In Delhi the price was increased by around Rs 5 per litre. Suppose a person runs a truck from Delhi to Shimla carrying shoes. He sells shoes in Shimla market at the rate of Rs.300 per pair. His expenditure on diesel before the rise in price was around Rs.3100 per trip. But because of price rise his expenditure on diesel increased to ,say, Rs.3700. How he will manage this extra Rs.600? One way is to increase the price of a pair of shoes from Rs.300 to say Rs.325. If you are staying at Shimla and buying shoes then you have to pay Rs.25 more for a pair than before. Where from you get this extra money of Rs.25? Your income must increase to adjust this increase in expenditure. Since you spend on other goods as well and prices of others goods are also increasing in a similar fashion, your income must increase even faster.

But ironically, the per capita income in India has not increased in the desired manner.

We just told that India’s per capita income was Rs.33,731 in the year 2009-2010. Do you know what was the amount in the preceding year. 2008-9? It was Rs.31,801. This means, income of an individual was increased by only Rs.1930. What is the increase per month? It was around Rs.160 per month. Is this amount sufficient for you to meet the extra expenditure on various goods due to rise in prices? Remember that you have to pay extra Rs.25 for shoes only. These are so many other things you need for which you have to pay more. So increase of Rs.160 is not just enough to satisfy your existing wants, what to talk of satisfying increase in wants? We reproduce the data on per capita income in the table below given economic survey.

Table 19.1 Per capita income of India

Year	per capita income (Rs)	Growth (Rs)
2008-09	31801	—
2009-10	33731	160

Third, finally we want our income to grow because we may want to help each other at times of needs or to please each other. Let us not forget that we live in a society with our relatives, friends and others. We need each others help and cooperation all the time. Have you ever helped a friend who was in need? You may want to help a poor person who wants food to eat? You may want to purchase a book for your needy friend? You may want to buy chocolates for your little brother or sister? In all these cases you need more money after taking care of your own needs But if we are not able earn more for ourselves to satisfy our own increase in wants, then how can we help others which we want to do?



Notes



INTEXT QUESTION 19.4

1. Find out the percentage increase in per capita income in 2009-10 over 2008-09 from table-19.1 above? (use your arithmetic skill).
2. Define per capita income?
3. What was India's per capita income in 2009-10?

3. Heavy population pressure

India's economy is over populated. It has grown by more than three times in last 60 years. At the time of independence in 1947 the population was 350 million. According to 2011 census, India's population stands at 1.21 billion. It is second only to China in the world and may even over take China in future. Why are we worried about high population? Very simple. More people means more mouths to eat. This implies that more food grains to be produced. Since population is increasing every year, more food grains must be produced every year. This is not an easy task. Because the land area meant for cultivation is not increasing proportionately. So if food production does not match with increase in population then availability of food grain per head or per capita supply of food grain will fall. Taking the hole of India as one family, this further means that, each member of the family will have less food to eat. Is it not alarming?

Besides food, more population mean more clothes, more expenditure in education and health services, more houses, roads and what not? Who will provide it? Is our government bestowed with sufficient resources to provide all these facilities? May be not. Otherwise there would not have been slums in cities and beggars on the streets.

The positive thing about India's population is that the number of young people is very high as compared to other nations in the world. About half of India's population is in the age group of 0 to 25 years. Around 78.5 crore out of 121 crore people belong to below 35 years of age. What does it mean? Youth are full of energy and strength and expected to perform better as they have the ability to work more. It also indicates low dependency ratio.



Notes

Do you know which are the three most populous states in India? They are Uttar Pradesh, followed by Maharashtra and then Bihar. It is interesting to know that the population of Uttar Pradesh (UP) is almost equal to that of Brazil which is one of the largest countries in the world as per land area, while Maharashtra's population is equal to that of Mexico. See the table-2 below to verify this.

In fact total of India's population almost equals the combined population of USA, Japan, Indonesia, Pakistan and Bangladesh.

Table 19.2 Population of India and States as per Census 2011.
(in crores)

UP -19.9	Brazil -19.07
Maharashtra-11.2	Mexico-11.2
India-121	

4. Existence of Poverty

Nearly one third of world's poor live in India. See the beggars on the streets, the slums in towns and cities, children working on the fields or in the street side dhabas or employed in houses or in factories etc. These are visuals of poverty in the country. See table-3 below. More than 30 crores of India's population suffer from poverty which is about 27.5 percent of the total population. Out of these, more than 22 crores live in rural areas. The rest live in urban areas i.e. towns and cities.

Among various states of India, Odisha is the most affected by poverty. Because the percentage of poor people out of its total population is 46 which is highest among all the states. It is followed by Chhatisgarh, then Bihar. In terms of number of poor people, UP has the maximum number of poor people. Look at Punjab, Haryana and Andhra Pradesh. They are among the least affected by poverty because, percentage of poor people in these states is lower as compared to Odisha, Bihar and Uttar Pradesh.

Table 19.3 Poverty situation in some states in India

State	% of Poor People	Total number of Poor People (Lakh)
Odisha	46	179
Chhatisgarh	41	91
Bihar	41	369
Uttar Pradesh	35	590
Andhra Pradesh	16	126
Haryana	14	32
Punjab	08	22
All India	27.5	3017

Source: compiled from economic survey



Notes

When you study table – 19.3 what do you make out? Percentage of poor people tells about how many persons out of 100 are poor, while total number of poor people is the absolute number. See that Odisha has 179 lakh poor people which is very less than that of 590 lakh in UP. But in Odisha nearly 46 out of every 100 people are poor while in UP, 35 out of every 100 people are poor. Because UP's total population is higher than that of Odisha, the absolute number of poor people is also higher in UP than in Odisha. Because of higher percentage, Odisha is more affected by poverty than UP.

Poverty is a curse on humanity. A poor person cannot afford his or her daily needs or necessities to buy from the market. He or she is not able to eat even two square meals a day, nor she or he can wear proper clothes. A poor person has no shelter to live or has katcha house. It is difficult for him or her to get education, health care etc. Why does this happen? There could be many reasons.

First, a person affected by poverty is either unemployed or earn very small amount of income from his or her current occupation which is insufficient to fulfill his or her basic needs.

Second, the person must be subjected to exploitation by others on the basis of caste or religion or gender.

Third, the person has become poor because he or she has not got any property in the form of land or house etc. Those who have inherited property from their ancestors enjoy certain advantages over others who do not have property.

Fourth, perhaps the efforts of the government have not been effective. Corruption and slow pace of decision making, in government are obstacles in removing poverty. However, existence of poverty is not the failure of the government alone, but also failure of the people and society at large who should help each other and cooperate so that everyone can lead a decent life.

(We will discuss the concept of poverty and various steps taken by the government to remove poverty in unit 22.)



INTEXT QUESTIONS 19.5

1. Do you think poverty and unemployment are linked?
2. Compare the figures for Odisha and Punjab as given in table-19.3.



ACTIVITY

Calculate total Population of the states from the data given in table – 19.3 ? Use your knowledge of arithmetic.



Notes

5. Dependence on Agriculture

In an economy people pursue various activities to earn their livelihood, such as, agriculture, industry and services. (we will study this in detail in lesson-20). Indian economy has been traditionally based on agriculture. In 1951, at the beginning of first plan, more than 70 percent of the population were engaged in agriculture and related activities. Even if this has come down, still around 60 percent of the population is still dependent on agriculture at the beginning of the 21st. century i.e year 2001.

7. Planning for Development

A major feature of Indian economy after independence has been its consistent effort to achieve development through the process of economic planning. This is a very positive phenomena going on for the past 60 years.

The government of India adopted five year plans beginning with the first five year plan in 1951. The duration of this plan was 1951 to 1956. Accordingly the second five year plan began in the year 1956 and ended in 1961. And so on. See the table -4 below to know the time period of different plans in India.

Table 19.4

Plans	Plan Periods in India
First	1951-1956
Second	1956-1961
Third	1961-1966
Annual Plan	1966-1967, 1967-68, 1968-69
Fourth	1969-1974
Fifth	1974-79
Annual Plan	1979-80
Sixth	1980-1985
Seventh	1985-1990
Annual Plans	1990-91 and 1991-92
Eighth	1992-1997
Ninth	1997-2002
Tenth	2002-2007
Eleventh	2007-2012



What do you mean by planning? Planning means to make preparation to do something in future. It could be solving a problem to achieve some target you have fixed.

You can take your own example. Suppose you have to appear for your tenth class examinations next year. Say, you have ten months times from today. How will you go about it? Obviously you will prepare in a systematic manner to achieve your target i.e. passing the examination and also with good score. In order to realize this, your preparation will include the following

- (i) arranging money to purchase books
- (ii) allocating time every day for study and other works
- (iii) Allocating time for each subject every day. i.e. Economics, Mathematics, Biology, Hindi, English etc.
- (iv) Evaluating your preparation after say each month or after every two or three months.

Similarly the government of India has been planning to solve its economic as well as various other problems. Planning is necessary because the problems are not easy to solve in a day or two. Take for example the problem of increasing production of food grains. It requires allocation of resources in the form of man power, raw materials, machinery, money etc. which must be used in proper manner so that there are minimum wastages. Similarly there are many other problems as well, such as—problem of giving employment or jobs to so many young people every year, problem of improving the standard of living of poor people, providing safe drinking water to rural population, building roads to connect different villages and towns of India etc. You can count thousands of such problems

India has adopted five year plans so that at the beginning of the particular plan it declares as to which problems should be taken up in the coming five years and at the end of the term reviews the whole situation and the progress made in that direction. In the table-19.4 above the time period of the five year plans are given. We have completed ten five year plans. The eleventh plan will be over in 2012. You can see that during the period 1966-1969 there was no five year plan but merely annual plans. This was because of lack of monetary and other resources to run a five year plan. Why did this happen? It happened because India fought wars against China in 1962 and against Pakistan in 1965 for which the government had to divert its resources to fight these wars. India also faced drought situation which decreased our agricultural production in this period. So it was difficult to go for a five year plan and India had to manage with annual plans. When the situation got better it restarted five year plan in 1969 with the fourth plan.

In 1979 there was change of government in the centre. So the sixth plan was started in 1980 and the period 1979-80 was converted to annual plan.



Notes

Expenditures on Plans

In each and every plan the government allocates resources to various areas such as agriculture, industry, education, health, transport and communication, community development and other social sectors. The aim is to use the given resources earmarked for the said area for its development as per the target fixed by the government for the said period. For example the resources for agriculture can be used for improving productivity of land, extending irrigation facilities etc. Similarly the resources for education can be used for construction of school buildings, granting scholarships to meritorious students, etc. and so on. We can express the resources in rupee terms. In the first five year plan a total amount of Rs. 2070 crores were allocated to meet the expenditures on various sectors. In the Eleventh five year plan, which is going to be completed in the year 2012, a total sum of Rs. 36, 44,718 crores has been proposed to meet expenditures on different areas. Some of the reasons for manifold increase in the amount of expenditure from first plan to eleventh plan are: (a) increase in population, (b) increase in wants and (c) increase in prices in the markets.



ACTIVITY

1. You want to increase wheat production on an acre plot of land from, say 5 quintals in this year to 8 quintals next year. How will you plan to achieve this target?



WHAT YOU HAVE LEARNT

- The story of Indian economy has two distinct phases. One, the economy during British period and two, the economy after independence .
- During the British period Indian economy was totally exploited by the British for their benefit. As a result the economy suffered from famines and exploitations by the intermediaries. The result was that there was large scale poverty in India at the time of independence.
- After independence the situation has not changed to match the expectations of its people. India is still known by -low per capita income and its slow increase over time; poverty; heavy population pressure etc.
- But India has got hope through its five year plans which set a target to achieve certain goals.



TERMINAL EXERCISE

1. What do you mean by temporary settlement?
2. Why did the British want cash crops to be cultivated ?
3. Give two reasons for occurrence of famines in India ?
4. Cite one positive aspect of India's population?
5. From the definition of per capita income can you give one reason of its slow growth?
6. Give a brief account of famines during British period. What are the reasons of occurrences of such famines?
7. Who were the intermediaries? Describe the role played by them?
8. Why did the government of India adopt Planning?
9. Do you think India is a poor country? Give reasons. for your answer.



Notes



ANSWERS TO INTEXT QUESTIONS

Intext Questions 19.1

1. Indian textiles used labour while British textile used machines for production.

Intext Questions 19.2

1. Famine refers to a situation of food shortage leading to hunger and death of many people.
2. British were exporting food grains to earn revenue.

Intext Questions 19.3

1. Permanent settlement implies fixation of land revenue permanently.
Temporary settlement implies revision of land revenue every 25-30 years.
2. Zamindars were appointed by the British in the Eastern provinces of India. Their job was to collect revenue from people. They were also responsible to run local administration.

**Notes****Intext Questions 19.4**

1. 6.06
2. Per capital income = $\frac{\text{National Income}}{\text{Population}}$
3. Rs 33,731

Intext Questions 19.5

1. Yes
2. Odisha has 46 per cent of its population as poor whereas Punjab has only 8 per cent of population who are poor. So Punjab is richer than Odisha.



20

SECTORAL ASPECTS OF INDIAN ECONOMY

We consume various types of goods and services. They can be classified into two types- (i) food items and (ii) non-food items. To make food we need food grains, fruits and vegetables, edible oil etc. These things are produced by farmers in the rural area. There are countless non-food items which we use, such as, clothes, shoes, furniture, utensils, automobiles, pen, paper, book etc. These are produced by industries in towns and cities. Since production of food grains and production of non-food items take place in different environment we classify them as different sectors of the economy.



OBJECTIVE

After completing this lesson, you will be able to:

- know the three major sectors of Indian economy which the households pursue to earn their living;
- understand the role and importance of each of these sectors in the economy;
- know the linkages among these sectors.

20.1 TYPES OF OCCUPATION PEOPLE PURSUE

To earn livelihood people pursue different types of activities based on their education, skill, family tradition etc. Normally we classify them into three different sectors of the economy, such as (i) primary sector, (ii) secondary sector and (iii) tertiary sector.

20.1.1 Primary Sector

Take the scenario in rural areas of India. How do the people, who are living in villages, earn their livelihood? Many of them work on the fields to raise crops, which is known

**Notes**

as cultivation. They are known as farmers and agricultural labourers and the occupation is called agriculture. There are different types of crops which are cultivated; such as food items and non food items. Food items include cereal, pulses, fruits and vegetables etc. and non-food items include cotton, jute etc.

Similarly people also earn their livelihood from forestry which refers to collection of forest products and selling them in the market. This occupation is called forestry. Forest products include- timber, firewood, herbal medicines etc. Many people work in mining area to extract minerals. There also people who are engaged in raising live stock such as poultry and dairy farming. Finally fishery is another occupation in which people catch fish in ponds, rivers or sea to sell them in the market. All these activities i.e. agriculture, forestry, mining, livestock and fishery are complementary to each other. We classify them as primary production and place them in primary sector.

So primary sector of our economy includes the following.

- (i) Agriculture and allied activities
- (ii) Fishery
- (iii) Forestry
- (iv) Mining and Quarrying

Villages have been existing from ancient days in India and agriculture and the allied activities are very traditional occupation of people. It comes naturally to them because food which comes from agriculture is the basic need of life. But with progress of time human settlements have expanded beyond villages. Towns and cities have come up in the process of development. These are called urban areas. Jaipur, Ahmedabad, Pune, Bhubaneswar etc. are examples of cities in India. Delhi, Chennai, Mumbai and Kolkata are called Metros because they are even bigger cities. These urban areas are known for its non-agricultural occupation. We can divide the non agricultural activities into two sectors.

- (i) Secondary Sector
- (ii) Tertiary sector

20.1.2 Secondary Sector

This sector includes the following production activities

- (a) Manufacturing
- (b) Construction
- (c) Gas, water and electricity supply

Manufacturing

This implies production of goods by using raw materials in manufacturing units called factories and industries. In terms of size and expenditure involved there are small and large scale industries. Examples of small scale units are: shoe factory, textile unit, printing, glass making, furniture etc. The large scale manufacturing includes steel, automobiles, aluminum, etc. Skilled people work in manufacturing business.

Construction

This activity includes construction of residential and non-residential buildings, roads, parks, bridges, dams, airports, bus stops and so on. It is a regular activity seen in urban areas.

Another occupation people pursue in secondary sector is gas, water and electricity supply. These are essential services.



ACTIVITY

- (i) Visit a poultry farm and note down the products it sells.
- (ii) Make a list of five forest products and note down their prices.

20.1.3 Tertiary Sector

People are also engaged in tertiary sector activities which are different in nature.

This sector is called service sector where following services are provided.

- (i) Trade, Hotels and Restaurants
- (ii) Transport, Storage and Communication
- (iii) Financial services such as Banking, Insurance etc.
- (iv) Real estate and Business services
- (v) Public Administration
- (vi) Others services.

Table 20.1 provides the percentage of working population in the above mentioned different sub sectors for the year 2009-10.



Notes



Notes

Table 20.1 Occupational Distribution of working Population in India (percentage) in 2009-10

(i) Agriculture	50.19
(ii) Mining and quarrying	0.61
(iii) Manufacturing	13.33
(iv) Electricity, water etc	0.33
(v) Construction	6.10
(vi) Trade, Hotels etc.	13.18
(vii) Transport, storage etc	5.06
(viii) Financial, business services etc.	2.22
(ix) Other services etc.	8.97

Source: Economic Survey



INTEXT QUESTIONS 20.1

- (i) Which of the following is a part of primary sector?
 - (a) Fishery (b) electricity (c) banking
- (ii) Which is the largest sector in terms of share in working population in India?



ACTIVITY

Visit three households in your neighborhood and ask them about their occupation. Then categorize their occupation into different sectors.

Since people work in various activities under the above mentioned sectors and earn income we can analyse the contribution of these sectors to national product as well as their role and importance in the economy.

20.2 ROLE AND IMPORTANCE OF PRIMARY SECTOR

In the primary sector agriculture is the predominant occupation and has the largest share in national income. So let us concentrate on the role and importance of agriculture

in the Indian economy in terms of its share in the national income, providing employment food and raw materials. Let us take them one by one.

1. Share in National income

At the time of independence agriculture was contributing more than 50 percent to national income. In recent years its share has come down. In 2009-10 agriculture contributed around 15 percent to national income.

2. Providing employment to largest section of population

Agriculture is the mainstay of Indian economy. It is the occupation of the largest section of India's population. At the time of independence about 70 percent of our population depended on agriculture and allied activities to earn their livelihood. With development of manufacturing and service sector dependency on agriculture has slightly reduced. About 50 percent of India's population was working in agriculture in the year 2009-10.

3. Providing Food to Millions

Food is the most basic requirement of life. Without agriculture food production and supply would be non-existent. India's food requirement is not only very high but also increasing every year because of increase in its population. The total food grain production of India in 2008-9 was around 234 million tonnes. This includes wheat, rice and pulses.

4. Providing raw materials to industries

Industries such as sugar, jute, cotton textiles, vanaspati etc. get their raw materials from agriculture. Do you know how paper is made? It requires a special type of grass, bamboo etc. Without agriculture paper production is not possible. Look at the food processing industry which is supplying so many different varieties of packed food items such as pickles, fruit jam, juice, biscuits, bread, semi-prepared food etc. Food processing industry is operating because of agriculture only.



INTEXT QUESTIONS 20.2

1. How much was the food grain production of India in 2008-09?
2. Give three examples of products from food processing industry?
3. What was the share of agriculture in National income at the time of independence?
4. How much has agriculture contributed to India's income in 2009-10?



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20.3 ROLE AND IMPORTANCE OF SECONDARY SECTOR

In the secondary sector manufacturing industries form the major part. These industries are categorized into small scale industry and large industry.

What is a small scale industry? An industry which can be established by spending a minimum of Rs. 25 lakh on plants and machinery is called a small scale industry. These industries mostly use labour-intensive technology. i.e. production process of these industries use more labour force. Large scale industry, on the other hand needs huge amount of investment in the form of plant and machinery. It is also physically spread over many acres of land and employs large number of people. It also uses capital intensive technology in the form of big machines. Take for example an iron and steel plant. The Tata Iron and steel plant is the oldest in the country. It is situated in Jamshedpur over an area of about 37.31 km. square of land.

The importance of Industrial sector, both small and large, has been increasing after independence. Let us discuss them one by one.

(i) Share in national income

The contribution of industrial sector has been increasing slowly over time after independence. In 2009-10 the share of this sector was 28 percent in India's domestic product. At the time of independence it was only 14 percent. The increase is due to increase in number of manufacturing units and increase in industrial production.

(ii) Employment generation

Industrial sector has also largely contributed to providing employment opportunities to India's population. Nearly 3 crores 30 lakhs people are engaged in both small and large scale industries combined. Out of this small industries provide nearly 3 crore 12 lakh jobs.

(iii) Creation of Infrastructure

Today it has become easier to travel to distant places because of existence of roads, highways, railways, airways. Think of the big Dam projects such as Hirakud and Bhakra-Nangal which provide electricity and irrigation. Look at the big buildings which accommodate offices, shopping centers, factories, institutions etc. and provide residences. Also see the Radio and Telephone towers which facilitate communication. These are all part of infrastructure. You can imagine, how impossible will it be to live without these facilities today? Infrastructure building is possible because of contribution of large scale industries which make the machinery and equipments needed build infrastructure.

(iv) Provision of consumer goods

The clothes you wear, the pen, the tooth brush, soap, shoes, cycle, scooter, car etc. you use are produced by manufacturing industries. Today the market is flooded with many goods of your choice. This is possible because of industrialization.



Notes

**INTEXT QUESTIONS 20.3**

1. Define small scale industry?
2. What was the share of industrial sector in national income in 2009-10?
3. Give two examples of infrastructure?

20.4 ROLE AND IMPORTANCE OF SERVICE SECTOR

Service sector of India has been expanding and growing very fast. Look around and you will see that number of trains carrying people as well as goods have increased significantly. You also find so many buses, cars and trucks moving on the roads from one place to another. This means that the transport services have grown over time. More number of people are having telephones including mobile phones. More number of schools have been built in the country to provide education. The number of study centers under open schooling has increased so that more students can be benefitted. You can also find hospitals; health centers etc are providing health services to people. Banks have also opened their branches so that people can open their account, withdraw money they want and take loans to purchase house, car, scooter etc. There are hotels and restaurants in almost all public places to provide food to people. These are examples of different types of services. It is difficult to think life in the economy without services. Hence it is important to know the role and importance of service sector which we will discuss below under the following heads.

- (i) Contribution of service sector to National income.
- (ii) Contribution of service sector in providing employment
- (iii) Attracting funds from foreign countries.
- (iv) Contribution of service sector in Exports.

**ACTIVITY**

Prepare a project on your local “transport service” in about 200 words.



Notes

20.5 CONTRIBUTION OF SERVICE SECTOR

(i) Contribution to National Income

Among all the three sectors i.e. agriculture, industry and service, it is the service sector that has contributed maximum to the national income of India. If India's income is 100, then service sector contributed 55.20 in the year 2009-10 which is more than half of the total. We have presented the share of different services in table 20.2 below.

Table 20.2 Contribution of services sector in GDP (2009-10)

Trade, Hotels etc.	16.3
Transport, Communication	7.8
Finance, real estate, business	16.7
Community, social and others	14.4
Total service sector	55.2

Source: Economic Survey

You can see that financial, real estate and business services contributed 16.7 percent out of the total 55.2. Financial services include Banking and Insurance. Trade and hotel services contributed 16.3 percent. Community and social services which include public administration, defense etc. has contributed 14.4 percent while transport and communication contributed 7.8 percent to national income.

(ii) Contribution to Employment

Now a days more and more people are getting employment in service sector. Out of total employment level in the country, this sector has absorbed 29.4 percent of them in 2009-10. In times to come this figure is going to increase further. The main reason is that the number of educated people in India is increasing every year. They belong to various fields such as matriculates, graduates in arts, commerce, science, engineering, medicine and other professional and vocational streams. Service sector needs these people. In terms of wages and salaries, service sector, pays more than that of agricultural sector. Compared to agriculture, service sector provides more job opportunities. There is existence of large varieties of services which are provided round the year. But there are some seasonal activities in agriculture. So as people become more educated they move to service sector. So employment in service sector is increasing.

(iii) Attracting Funds from Foreign Countries

Looking at the growth of service sector of India people from foreign countries are showing more interest to invest money in this sector to earn profit. Banking, insurance,

trade, transport, hotel services combined have attracted more than 1 lac 18 thousand crores rupees from foreign countries in the form of direct investment. Recently computer service has grown many fold in India. This has attracted more than forty seven thousand crores of rupees from foreign countries. If investments are made then more job opportunities are created. This is advantageous for the nation.



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(iii) Contribution of Service Sector to Exports

Exporting means selling goods and services to citizens in foreign countries to earn foreign exchange in the form of dollar, euro, yen, pound etc. In recent years India's service sector has contributed a lot in earning foreign exchange for the country through exports. Our business services which include – IT, consultancy, legal services, etc. have become world standard .

In the year 2009-10 India earned nearly 4.35 lakh crores of rupees from exports in services.



INTEXT QUESTIONS 20.4

1. What was the share of service sector in employment in 2009-10?
2. What was the share of service sector in national income of India in 2009-10?

20.6 LINKAGES AMONG THE THREE SECTORS OF THE ECONOMY

All the three sectors are interlinked. In fact they complement and supplement each other. We give you the following story to understand it.

Hari Singh is a farmer who cultivates wheat on his agricultural land in the village Rampur. Last year he had a good harvest due to good rain fall. So he could sell 10 quintals of wheat in the local mandi and keep another 10 quintals for his household consumption. This year there is no proper rainfall. The area is also having no irrigation facility. Then how to provide water to the wheat crop ? Hari Singh decided to lift ground water. But for this he needs a diesel pump set. Who will provide a diesel pump set? It is produced by a manufacturing unit called Ravi manufacturers which is situated 200km away in an industrial area called Karim Nagar. Now going to such distant place is a difficult task. Ganga Singh, a friend of Hari Singh told that there is no need to worry. He took Hari Singh to the nearest township market called Shiv Mandi. In the market complex there is a shop called Pappu Hardware Store run by Ganga's brother-in-law named Pappu who sells pump sets. When Hari Singh asked for the pump set Pappu told him to wait for two hours because the truck carrying 50 Ravi pump sets and some spare parts for



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tractors from Karim Nagar would reach his shop by that time. Pappu also talked to Ravi Khetrapal, who is the owner of Ravi pumps, over his mobile phone to confirm this. In the mean time Ganga and Hari took tea and snacks in the tea stall, went to enquire about admission into primary schooling for Hari's little daughter and brought medicines from the health center for Ganga's son who was having fever at home. After two hours when they came back to Pappu's shop they saw labourers unloading the pumpsets. Pappu told them that he had ordered 50 pumps from the factory in Karim Nagar. The truck would deliver the spare parts to another shop in the same market place which sells auto and tractor parts. Hari saw that Pappu gave a cheque of Rs. 100,000 to the truck driver who received it on behalf of Ravi Khetrapal. "Since the amount is big, it is not safe to give cash. Cheque is a better option. Mr. Khetrapal can deposit the cheque in his bank account to get the money" Pappu said. He further said that this payment was made to settle some earlier dues. The payment for pumps would be made after he sells the pumps to the customers in the similar way. Hari Singh paid Rs. 7000 to Pappu and bought one pump set. "Due to bad monsoon this year pump sets are in great demand and will be sold quickly" said Pappu confidently. "What about the truck now?" asked Hari while returning back to village with Ganga Singh. "The truck will now carry wheat and vegetables from the mandi which would be sold to households in the Karim Nagar industrial area and township" replied Ganga.

From the story above you can easily establish the link between the agriculture, industry and service sectors. Like Hari Singh there are many farmers in the agricultural sector who need diesel pumps to irrigate their land. Besides pumps there are many other inputs such as fertilizer, pesticides, plough, tractor etc. are required for cultivation. These things are supplied by industry in the same way as the pump in the story. In return people working in industries and services get food supplied by the agricultural sector in the same way as Hari Singh had sold his surplus wheat in the mandi. What is role of service sector then? Its role is to facilitate and ensure these transactions between agriculture and industry. In the story the truck carrying pumps and spare parts from Karim Nagar to Shiv Mandi and food items on its journey back is a part of transport service. Use of mobile phone to keep track of the order as part of communication services. Cheque deposit in the bank is part of financial service. Pappu's shop provides business service of delivering the good. Note that all these activities are duly backed and supported by money flow. Here in the story Hari Singh sold wheat and got money. He used the money to buy a pump. Pappu got money from Hari and paid it back to supplier of pumps after keeping his profit. After receiving the money the pump supplier will pay the truck driver his due and give wages to people in the factory. These people will use the money to buy food in the local market transported by the truck from mandi.

From this simple story, now you can imagine how the whole of the economy is linked and connected internally.



INTEXT QUESTIONS 20.5

1. Give one benefit of making payment by cheque?
2. “Transporting food grain” is a part of which sector?
 - (a) agriculture (b) industry (c) service



ACTIVITY

Visit your local market and make a list of some services you get there. Also make a list of five agricultural and industrial products you see there and find out their place of origin?



WHAT YOU HAVE LEARNT

- There are three sectors in the economy, namely, primary (agriculture and allied activities), secondary, (manufacturing etc.) and tertiary (services).
- All these sectors contribute towards generation and growth of national income, creation of employment opportunities, supply of goods and services and creating infrastructure.
- All the three sectors are interlinked by complementing and supplementing each other.



TERMINAL EXERCISE

1. Name the sub sectors of primary sector?
2. Name the sub sectors of secondary sector?
3. Name the sub sectors of tertiary sector?
4. Explain the role and importance of primary sector?
5. Explain the role and importance of secondary sector?
6. Explain the role and importance of tertiary sector?
7. How are the three sectors of the economy interrelated?



Notes

**Notes****ANSWERS TO INTEXT QUESTIONS****Intext Questions 20.1**

1. (a)
2. Agriculture

Intext Questions 20.2

1. 234 million tonnes
2. bread, fruit jam and pickles
3. more than 50 percent
4. 15 percent

Intext Questions 20.3

1. An industry which can be established by spending a minimum of Rs 25 lakhs on plants and machinery is called a small scale industry.
2. 28 percent
3. Telephone tower, Hirakud Dam

Intext Questions 20.4

1. 29.4 percent
2. 55.2 percent

Intext Questions 20.5

1. safety (reaches the person through bank amount)
2. service



21

CHALLENGES OF INDIAN ECONOMY

Each and every citizen of the country has a right to lead a decent life. Every body must be able to fulfil his minimum needs such as food, health care, housing, basic education, etc. However, India is a poor country where a large section of the population cannot afford all these. The matter is made worse due to the fact that our economy does not provide adequate employment opportunities so that poor people can get jobs and earn income. Hence eradication of poverty and unemployment is a major challenge before the economy. Similarly higher quality of life is achieved by getting proper education and health care facilities. Since India is a very large country in terms of population, provision of education and health care by the government to all its citizens is also a major challenge. Another important concern before the government is the rising prices of commodities in the market which is called inflation. Rise in prices hit the poor and middle class people very badly. So controlling the price level is a major problem to be dealt with whenever it occurs. Finally, the income of the nation must also grow with rise in population and their wants so that the development process continues. So achieving economic growth every year is also a major challenge before the economy.



OBJECTIVE

After completing this lesson, you will be able to:

- *understand the meaning of poverty and programmes implemented by the government to eradicate poverty and generate employment;*
- *Know the steps taken by the government to provide education and health care facilities;*
- *understand the methods to control price rise or inflation;*
- *the strategy of the government to achieve higher economic growth.*



Notes

21.1 TACKLING POVERTY AND UNEMPLOYMENT

Who is poor in India? According to planning commission of the government of India any body who is not able to get 2400 kilo calories (kcl) from food intake in rural area and 2100 kcl from food in take in urban area is termed as poor. We call this **Poverty Line** in India. How to explain this poverty line? You know that food is most essential for our existence. We take food to get energy for our body so that we can perform certain activities. How is energy measured? What is the minimum energy requirement for our body per day?

Energy is measured in terms of kilo calories. In rural areas people do lot of hard work to earn their living. According to experts the minimum energy required by a person for doing such work is 2400 k cal in rural area and 2100 k cal in urban area. To get this energy a person requires some amount of food in the form of cereals, pulses, vegetables etc. To buy these food items the person must have some amount of money. This implies that if the person is not able to earn this money to buy the food needed in order to get the required energy to do work, then the person is said to be below poverty line or simply poor.

On this basis it is found that about 27.5 percent of the population in India was poor in the year 2004-5 which was around 27 crores. But do you think that poverty should be measured only in terms of food in- take. Other essential items such as clothing, shoes etc. also come under minimum requirements? This means that even more money is required to buy all these items. According to the government of India if food, clothes, shoes and other non-food items are taken together, then more than 37 percent of India's population i.e. more than 37 crores, were poor .

Similarly on the employment front India is also not doing well. One major reason of poverty being unemployment among the population who are willing to work. Slow growth of industries, education and training are main reasons for unemployment in India. Also our agriculture is already over burdened with population and employment is seasonal there. After harvesting is over, agricultural labour and small farmers become unemployed. In India the population of labour force was more than 43 crores by the year 2010. Labour force means people who are able to work and are between age group of 15 years to 59 years. On a daily basis about 3 to 4 crores or around 8 percent of this labour force do not get any employment.

21.2 EMPLOYMENT GENERATION OR POVERTY ALLEVIATION PROGRAMMES

What is the government doing to remove poverty and create employment opportunities for its citizens? In order to tackle these serious problems the Indian government has been making policies and spending a lot of money since the time of independence. That is why population below poverty line has been reducing over time. Though

slowly. Similarly unemployment rate has not been allowed to rise beyond control. These were possible due to the following programmes implemented by the government.

1. The Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme (MGNREGS)

MGNREGS aims at providing at least one hundred days of guaranteed wage employment in a year to rural population. The nature of work is unskilled manual work. The scheme was launched in 2006 in 200 districts of India. Then it was notified for the entire country in 2008. Any adult member of a family living in rural area can do manual labour on daily wage basis for 100 days in a year. In 2010, upto the month of December about 4.1 crores households were benefited under this scheme. In 2010-11 the government had allocated Rs. 40,100 crores to run this scheme.

2. Swarnjayanti Gram Swarozgar Yojana (SGSY)

SGSY was launched in April 1999. The aim of this programme is to help the rural poor to increase their income generating capacity through self employment. The primary focus of this scheme is the SC and ST population, as well as women. But others can also get benefit. Under this scheme poor people are given training, bank loans and other facilities so that they can build up their capabilities to overcome poverty. People who work on their own are called self employed or Swarozgaris. This scheme is specially meant for these swarozgaris. In order to give training to people belonging to poor households government has set up rural self employment training institute (RSETI) in each district under this scheme. About 77000 rural youths have got training from RSETI by December 2010.

3. Swarna Jayanti Sahari Rozgar Yojna (SJSRY)

SJSRY is meant for providing employment to poor families living in urban areas of the country. It was first launched in 1997. Then many new initiatives were introduced in 2009 which include the following :

- (i) Programmes to generate self employment
- (ii) Programmes for urban women
- (iii) Training for urban poor
- (iv) Community development programme
- (v) Wage employment programme

The government has allocated about Rs.590 crores for SJSRY for the year 2010-11. A total of more than 6 lac 50 thousand families in urban areas have been benefited under this scheme by December 2010.



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**INTEXT QUESTIONS 21.1**

1. What is the poverty line for rural areas?
2. What is the population of India's labour force?
3. Name a scheme to tackle urban poverty?

21.3 PROVIDING EDUCATION

Another challenge before our nation is to educate all the citizens. According to census 2011, the literacy rates of India were 82.14 per cent for males, 65.46 percent for females and 74.04 percent for all adults.

The government of India has taken following measures to provide education to all.

1. Right of children to free and compulsory education Act 2009.

The government of India has made "free education for all children between 6 to 14 years of age" a fundamental right in 2009. This law has been made effective from April 2010. Now children between age group of 6-14 years can have claim to free education and the government is duty bound to provide so. Accordingly the government will open more and more primary and upper primary schools and appoint teachers to teach.

2. Schemes for elementary and secondary education

Some of the important schemes to develop elementary and secondary education are given below

(i) Sarva Siksha Abhiyan (SSA)

SSA has been implemented by the central government in partnership with state governments to give education to children in the age group 6-14 years. Keeping in view the right to education act which came latter, SSA scheme has been accordingly modified. The goals of this scheme are

- (a) enrolment of all children in school
- (b) Retention of children in the school up to upper primary level
- (c) Hosting "back to school camps"
- (d) Building education guarantee centers
- (e) Closing the gap arising due to caste, gender etc. in giving education

By September 2010 there were 309, 727 new schools with more than 11 lac teachers being appointed. Nearly 9 crore children were provided text books.



Notes

To provide education to girl child SSA has an important component called national programme for education for girls at elementary level (NPEGEL). Under this programme “model schools” are being set up in every cluster to impart education to girls. Uniforms and study materials etc. are provided freely to girls. Teachers get special training to teach girl students under this programme.

There are also residential schools for girls called Kasturba Gandhi Balika Vidyalayas (KGBVs) under SSA. 75 percent of total girls students admitted in KGBVs belong to SC, ST, OBC and minority communities. Remaining 25 percent belong to families who are below poverty line. More than 2 lac girls are enrolled in KGBVs by March 2010.

(ii) National programme of Mid-day meals in Schools

In order to attract children into schools and retain them, the government has started mid day meals programme. The idea is to provide healthy diet to children by providing good food. Mid day meals also bring children from different sections of the society together and develop sense of belongingness towards each other. More than 14 crore children were benefited in 2009-10.

(iii) Rashtriya Madhyamik Shiksha Abhiyan (RMSA)

RMSA was launched in 2009 to increase the enrolment ratio in the secondary stage. 75 percent of the total expenditure on this programme comes from central government while state government provide 25 percent. For the north east region this ratio is 90 : 10.

(iv) Inclusive education for the disabled at secondary stage (IEDSS)

To help the children with special needs, the government has launched IEDSS programme with effect from 2009-10. Its aim is to provide 100 percent central assistance for education of disabled children studying class IX-XII stage.

(v) Saakshar Bharat

To promote education and literacy among the adults above 15 years of age, the government has recast its national literacy mission as Saakshar Bharat. The special focus of this program will be women.

(3) Programme for Higher and Technical Education

Higher education starts with college education after passing out from schools. Higher and technical education includes graduation in arts, social science, science, engineering, medicine, information technologies etc. A country must improve the level of its higher & technical education if it wants to establish knowledge society and compete with



other countries at international level. The government of India has taken several steps to develop higher and technical education as given below.

1. In the eleventh plan period the central government has aimed at establishing 8 new universities, 10 new engineering colleges with cooperation from state governments.
2. New model colleges will be set up at educationally backwards districts of the country.
3. To promote IT education 20 more Indian institutes of information technology (IIT) will be set up.
4. More engineering colleges in the form of national institutes of technologies (NITs), and Indian Institutes of Technology (IITS), will be built and become operational in 2011-12 in different parts of India.
5. To promote research in science the government has set up five Indian Institutes of Science Education and Research (IISER) in various parts of the country.
6. Finally five new Indian Institute of Management (IIMS) have become operational in the Eleventh plan and two more will become operational in 2011-12.

**INTEXT QUESTIONS 21.2**

1. Mention three goals of Sarva Siksha Abhiyan ?
2. Give suggestions to provide education to girl child ?
3. Give one advantage of mid-day meal programme?

21.4 PROVIDING HEALTH CARE

Another major challenge before the country is to provide better health care facilities to its people. Due to lack of proper health care 254 females out of every 100,000 die while giving birth. This is called maternal mortality rate (MMR). 50 out of 1000 children die at the time of birth which is called infant mortality rate (IMR). 15 children out of 1000 die before completing 4 years of age which is known as child mortality rate (CMR). Certainly these news are not encouraging. There are so many villages and remote areas in the country. But unlike cities and towns, these areas do not have adequate health centers or hospitals and doctors to attend to the problems of people there..

In 2010-11, the government spent only about 5 percent of total expenditure on health care which is only 1.27 percent of our national income. Even our neighbor Sri Lanka spends more than India on health services per head.

Let us look at the role played by the government in providing health facilities.

(i) National Rural Health Mission (NRHM)

NRHM was launched in 2005 to provide affordable and qualitative health service to rural population. It aims at strengthening health and family welfare programmes, removing diseases such as malaria, kala azar, blindness, iodine deficiency, T.B. filaria, leprosy etc. by improving public health delivery system. NRHM has started revitalizing the existing primary and community health centres. By September 2010 around 8 lac health workers have been given training on health care and more than 9 thousand doctors and 26 thousand nurses have been appointed on contract basis to give health services to rural population. NRHM is also running many mobile medical units (MMUs) which run from one place to another to provide health care at door step.

(ii) Janani Suraksha Yojana (JSY)

In order to save the life of the mother at the time of the delivery the government has started the Janani Suraksha Yojana.

(iii) Pradhan Mantri Swasthya Suraksha Yojana (PMSSY)

Health care facilities are not uniformly available in India. Some states have very good health infrastructure in the form of medical institutes / colleges and hospitals while others do not have these facilities. This has created regional imbalances in provision of health care service and over crowding of certain places where these facilities are available. For example the All India Institute of Medical Sciences (AIIMS) is situated in Delhi and is a world class medical institute cum hospital. Since other states do not have such a facility, people from different states come to Delhi to get treatment in AIIMS. As a result AIIMS has become over crowded with a long waiting period for treatment. To remove these problems the government of India has launched PMSSY. Under this scheme six new AIIMS like institutions will be constructed in different parts of the country. It also aims at upgrading 12 existing government medical colleges in different states.

(iv) National AIDS Control

AIDS (Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome) is a dangerous health disorder which affects people infected with HIV. About 24 lakh people in India were affected by HIV in 2009, which is one of the highest in the world. Once the virus called HIV attacks the human body, the person loses strength to fight diseases and his/her immune system become weak over time. Under such a circumstance the person cannot recover if he/she suffers from any disease. AIDS has endangered population all over the world. The government of India has created centers to generate awareness to prevent AIDS as well as treat people affected by the virus.



Notes



Notes

**INTEXT QUESTION 21.3**

1. Write the objectives of national rural health mission ?

21.5 CONTROLLING PRICE RISE

People pay prices to buy different commodities in the market. If prices increase then it becomes difficult to buy the same amount of the good and service. As a result, the level of satisfaction of the individual falls. When you pay more prices, your existing income looks less than before since you have to now pay more money to buy less amount of the commodity. This hits the buyer badly. Why do prices rise? The most common reason is that if the amount of a good people wants to buy in the market is more than its actual availability then this will create a situation of shortage of the particular good. As a result the price of the good will rise. Shortage may occur if production of the good has not been adequate. For example, food grain production falls if a draught situation happens. Another reason of shortage could be wastage of the good due to lack of proper storage facility. Finally, shortage will occur if the sellers hoard the good without selling it so that a man-made shortage takes place. Sellers do it deliberately to charge more prices for the good. Hoarding often takes place in case of essential commodities such as onion, rice, medicines etc.

The government plays a major role in controlling prices in the following ways

- (i) By helping farmers in several ways so that food grain output does not suffer. One example is that the government allows the farmers to buy seeds, fertilizer etc. at lower price.
- (ii) By building store houses and cold storages to keep food grains and vegetables properly so that there will be no problem of availability of such goods.
- (iii) By keeping a strict vigil on hoarding of essential commodities and punishing the guilty since hoarding is a crime.

21.6 ACHIEVING HIGHER ECONOMIC GROWTH

In a simpler manner we can define economic growth as increase in our Country's total income and per capita income. This is possible when India's agricultural and industrial production increase as well as Service sector expands in the desired manner. Some of the steps taken by the government in this direction are as follows.

1. India has been encouraging establishment of small scale, large scale and heavy industries since the second plan onwards i.e from 1956. These industries produce goods for the use of people, machines and equipments needed to build infrastructure and help service sector to expand. Industries provide lots of jobs and higher wages.

2. The government has been encouraging the use of better inputs in the form of better seeds, fertilizers etc. to improve food grain production.
3. Because of better infrastructure in the form of roads, railway lines, Airports, communication towers, power etc. India's service sector is growing fast.

In order to maintain the momentum of economic growth the government has modified rules and regulations so that people can easily participate in the process of development. These steps are known as economic reforms.

**Notes****INTEXT QUESTIONS 21.4**

1. Why is price rise bad for a buyer?
2. Give the meaning of hoarding?
3. Define economic growth?

**WHAT YOU HAVE LEARNT**

- The programme implemented by the government to generate Employment and alleviate poverty are - The Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme (MGNREGS), Swarnjayanti Gram Swarozgar Yojana (SGSY), and Swarna Jayanti Sahari Rozgar Yojna (SJSRY).
- To provide education various schemes such as-mid day meals, Saaksher Bharat, Sarva Siksha Abhiyan etc are implemented .
- For better health care, national rural health mission, aids control Programme etc. are being run.
- Checking price rise and achieving economic growth are also challenges before the government which are tackled by encouraging production besides others.

**TERMINAL EXERCISE**

1. What are the poverty alleviation programmes? Explain any one.
2. Describe any two schemes to provide elementary and secondary education.
3. Write a short note on national rural health mission.

**Notes**

4. Give some measures to solve the problem of price rise.
5. What the government has been doing to achieve economic growth?

**ANSWERS TO INTEXT QUESTIONS****Intext Questions 21.1**

1. 2400 kcal per day per person
2. 43 crores
3. Swarn Jayanti Sahari Rozgar Yojna

Intext Questions 21.2

1. (a) Enrolment of all children in schools
(b) Building education guarantee centres
(c) Hosting “back to school” camps
2. (i) set up model schools for girls in every cluster
(ii) provide uniforms and study materials to girls
(iii) Train the teachers to teach girl students
3. Midday meal programme allow the children from different sections of the society to eat together and develop a sense of belongingness towards each other

Intext Questions 21.3

1. (i) To strengthen health and family welfare programmes
(ii) Removing diseases such as malaria, kala azar, blindness, iodine deficiency, TB, filaria and leprosy etc.

Intext Questions 21.4

1. Buyer has to pay more money than before out of his given income. It becomes a burden.
2. Hoarding means storing goods secretly to create artificial shortage
3. Economic growth means increase in national and per capita income.



22

INDIAN ECONOMY IN THE GLOBAL CONTEXT

You know that India is one among many countries in the world. Countries do interact with one another and keep relationship in various areas of interest. Citizens of one country travel to other countries as tourists, to seek jobs, to do business, to study, to do charity and on some government assignments etc. In this lesson the major focus is on economic relationship between India and rest of the world.



OBJECTIVES

After completing this lesson, you will be able to:

- *understand the meaning of economic relationship between countries;*
- *understand the importance of Trade;*
- *know the exports and imports of goods and services by India;*
- *understand the meaning of globalization;*
- *know a brief over view of two most important economies, USA and China so that you can have an idea about India's comparative position in the world.*

22.1 MEANING OF ECONOMIC RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN COUNTRIES

If you are in need of money you can borrow it from a friend or from a bank. If you want to buy a book you can pay money to your local book shop and get the book. If you are a seller of goods such as stationery or garments or shoes etc. then you sell them to consumers who pay you. If you want to produce any good, you can invest some money and start a factory and give jobs to people who can provide their labour. All these are examples of economic activities inside your country in which

**Notes**

the citizens of your country participate. But when such activities take place between the citizens of two or more countries then we call it economic relationship between these countries. Take the example of India. Since we are citizens of India, we call India our domestic country and rest of the world consists of foreign countries. So when there is economic relationship between India and other countries then we mean that Indian citizens are exchanging goods and services (both buying and selling) with citizens of foreign countries and going to foreign countries to do jobs and business. Similarly, foreign citizens are coming to India to do jobs and business etc. Accordingly some examples of Economic relationship can be given as follows:

1. Selling of goods and services by the domestic citizens to citizens in a foreign country. This is called exports.
2. Buying of goods and services by domestic citizens from the foreign countries. This is called imports.
3. Sending gifts to some body in a foreign country and receiving the same from foreign countries.
4. Sending money to and receiving money from foreign countries respectively.
5. Visits made by tourists, business persons and government delegation.

When a country has economic relationship with other countries, then it is called an open economy.

22.2 IMPORTANCE OF TRADE

Examples (i) and (ii) above are part of “trade”. People buy and sell goods and services through markets inside the country. When the same thing takes place between citizens of various countries, we called it international trade.

Exports and imports are international trade in goods and services.

Trading activities are integral part of the economy. It is very difficult to look at life without trade in the economy. Goods are constantly transported from one place to other by trains, trucks, etc inside the country. Similarly aero planes, ships are used to transport goods between countries.

The aim is to provide the goods or service to the person who wants to pay for it, no matter, wherever the buyer resides. It means that distribution of goods or service is possible because of trade. That is why trade is so important. We can think of many other advantages of trade as given below.

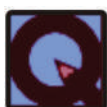
1. Through trade people get a lot of varieties of goods and services. During summer you would always like to have cold drinks. Some of the cold drinks available in the market are coca cola, pepsi cola etc. Do you know from where coca cola came to India first? It was manufactured in USA which is far away from India. Now of course coca cola plants are established in India. But it is still a foreign



Notes

company. Similarly Indian pickles are sold abroad in many countries by Indian business men. There are many examples of Indian goods being consumed by foreign people and foreign goods consumed by Indian people for satisfaction of wants.

2. Trade encourages production of new goods and services. Through trade sellers and buyers interact with each other. So sellers know the choice and preferences of the buyers and accordingly provide the goods and services for consumption.
3. People of different countries meet and interact through trade. Accordingly people of one country can know the culture, tradition, language etc. of another country.
4. Because of international trade it is possible to produce the goods more efficiently because it leads to specialization. This means goods can be produced at lower cost so that people will get them at lower prices. How? A good may be produced in more than one country. But one country may have better raw materials and technology to produce it. Take for example the case of India. In India spices and cotton etc. are easily cultivated due to climatic and soil conditions. Because of its rich customs, tradition and culture India's handicrafts are world famous. So they are easily produced in India at less cost. Accordingly India can specialize in the production of these goods. Hence other countries can buy these goods from India at cheaper price. Similarly in South Africa diamond are easily available because of the mines existing there. You can get many other such examples. The main thing is that if a country can produce a good with better quality and at lower cost, the country will become efficient in the production of that good and gain by exporting the good to other countries.



INTEXT QUESTIONS 22.1

1. Give one advantage of international trade?
2. What do you mean by export?
3. Define import?

22.3 EXPORT AND IMPORT BY INDIA

India is having economic relationship with many countries in the world. As a result India exports many commodities to foreign countries and imports many commodities from the foreign countries. The countries with which India is engaged in export and import activities are called India's trading partners.

(a) India's Exports

The major items that India exports to different countries are engineering goods, handicrafts, chemicals and allied products, readymade garments, cotton yarn, iron



ore, leather, fish, rice, fruits and vegetables etc. Some of the countries where Indian exports reach, are : France, Germany, UK, USA, Iran, UAE, China, Hongkong, Singapore and some African and Latin American countries.

(b) India's Imports

Petroleum and lubricants are the most important items that India imports from the Oil and Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC) such as Iran, UAE, and Saudi Arabia etc. India also imports non-ferrous metals, capital goods and fertilizer. Capital goods include electrical and non-electrical machinery and transport equipment. India's imports come from most of the countries to which it exports its goods and services.



INTEXT QUESTIONS 22.2

1. Name two main items of India's exports?
2. Name two items of India's imports?
3. Name two major trading partners of India?

22.4 MEANING OF GLOBALIZATION

Now a days the word globalization is commonly used. The reason is obvious. Today television and internet and mobile phones become easily available. People in remote areas can now talk and keep in touch through mobile phones. Today you can watch India-West-Indies cricket match live on television. You can talk to your friend in USA or Europe through mobile phone. There is no need of sending letters if you want to say something in detail. Getting a letter in USA from India takes at least 3 to 7 days. But through internet you can send e-mail which can reach your friend in seconds.

You can order a new good produced in Germany or Japan through internet and it will reach you in India. Because of these developments we think that the world has become very small and looks like various households staying in one village. We should not forget that this development has not taken place in a few days. The process has been there from a long time. In earlier days individuals or groups used to travel to different countries through sea routes to trade goods and services. Travel and sending of goods became easier with the invention of aero plane and ships. Then governments of different counties started interacting with one another in order to minimize any obstacle that may arise so that citizens of all nations can exchange things without any problem. Technological and scientific developments in the field of transport and communication that you see today have made this process of interaction among citizens of different countries easier now. So we are no longer separate in the world even if we are living separately in different places in different countries. Rather people

have come closer to each other through trade, transport and communication systems. People can consume both domestic and foreign goods, go to foreign countries to do jobs and exchange ideas with foreign citizens, export goods and services to different countries etc.

The different countries of the world seem to be coming closer. This process is known as globalization in simple term.



Notes

22.5 COMPARISON OF ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT IN INDIA, CHINA AND USA

USA is world's one of the most – developed economies. The common thing between India and USA is that they are the two largest democracies in the world i.e. both the countries are governed by the elected representatives of people. The common thing between India and China is that both are part of the Asian continent and are neighbors. Some time back the level of economic development both in India and China was almost similar. Both were developing nations. But in the last few years Chinese economy has been developing very fast. So it is worthwhile to compare these economies. You have already studied Indian economy in previous three lessons. Here, do have a bird's eye view of the economies of USA and China respectively.

22.5.1 Brief account of USA economy

One of the most important features of USA economy is that the private sector plays a major role in production of goods and services. The government does not interfere much in business activities. There are 30 million small business in USA. Out of 500 largest companies in the world, 139 are in USA. About 40 percent of world's richest people stay in USA. American businessmen and corporations have got influence and presence all over the world. Multinational corporations such as ford motors, general electric, coca cola, wall mart etc. have emerged from USA.

USA's agriculture is also very advanced. It is one of the biggest exporters of food grains, such as wheat, corn, fruits and vegetables.

In terms of manufacturing, USA manufacturing output was greater than that of China, India and Brazil combined. Only recently i.e in 2010 China is said to have over taken USA. Petroleum, steel, automobiles, construction machinery, and agricultural machinery are some of the major manufacturing industries in USA.

Education and health care services are of high quality in USA. 85 percent of children enter public schools in USA AS AGAINST 15 percent in India.

USA is one of the top three exporters of goods and services in the world and biggest importer from rest of the world. Every one knows its currency called US dollar (\$) which is an international currency as it is circulated almost everywhere because of USA's dominance in world trade.

**Notes**

In spite of its richness USA does have poverty and unemployment. About 16 percent of its population did not have access to good food in 2008. Its unemployment rate in 2010 was 9.9 percent.

22.5.2 The Economy of China

It is said that Chinese economy is now the second largest after USA in the world. Till the 1980s China was not very important in terms of its economic power. Its position was the same as that of India. But after 1980s, China's economy grew very fast because of the economic reforms it pursued. You should know that unlike India and USA China does not have democracy or rule of people. In China one party rules and people do not enjoy freedom of expression. But Chinese government slowly allowed private sector to establish business and produce goods and services in large quantities. As a result China could export large quantities to different countries and earn large amount of foreign money.

Like India China has also adopted a five year plan strategy. Its twelfth five year plan has started recently and its duration is 2011-2015. The first plan period of China was 1953-57. Through planning and strict implementation of economic reforms China is achieving faster economic development. Now China's national income and per capita income are growing faster than India's. During the first half of 2010 China has 10 percent share in the total world exports as compared to only 1.4 percent for India. In the area of controlling its population, China is performing better than India. It is said that India will even overtake China in population in future. Because of its better economic environment China is attracting more money than India from foreign countries towards its industrialization and development of services. Today China's standard of living has improved so much that its poverty ratio fell from 51 percent in 1981 to 2.5 percent in 2005 while India had 27.5 percent of poor population at that time.

**INTEXT QUESTIONS 22.3**

1. Tell one common economic feature of India and China.
2. Compare India, China and USA with regard to poverty.

**WHAT YOU HAVE LEARNT**

- Meaning of economic relationship and benefits of international trade between countries.
- Which commodities India exports and imports.

- The meaning of globalization at elementary level.
- The status of the economies of USA and China respectively so that you can compare them with India which is given in earlier lessons.



TERMINAL EXERCISE

1. Explain the benefits of international trade?
2. Give examples of India's trading partners and some of the commodities it trades?
3. Write a short note on USA economy?
4. Write a short note on Chinese economy?



ANSWERS TO INTEXT QUESTIONS

Intext Questions 22.1

1. International trade leads to specialization and efficient production of goods and services.
2. Selling goods and services to rest of the world is called export.
3. Buying goods and services from rest of the world is called import.

Intext Questions 22.2

1. engineering goods, handicrafts
2. Petroleum, electrical machinery
3. USA, UAE

Intext Questions 22.3

1. Five year planning
2. In 2005, India's poverty ratio was 27.5 percent while that of China was only 2.5 percent. In USA 16 percent of its population did not have access to food in 2008.



Notes

MODULE-8

CONTEMPORARY ECONOMIC ISSUES

- 23. Environment and Sustainable Development
- 24. Consumer Awareness



23

ENVIRONMENT AND SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

In the earlier lessons, you have learnt about economic development and how it can improve the quality of life of people. Goods and services are produced to satisfy human wants. The production of various goods and services requires resources- both man-made and natural. As more goods are produced, more resources are used up. The process of production not only uses up resources, but also causes other problems. For example, when goods are produced in factories, the factories emit smoke which pollutes the air we breathe. Similarly, sewage discharged into rivers pollutes our drinking water. As the demand for goods and services keeps increasing, so does the demand for resources. As a result, resources are getting depleted and also being damaged irreparably. As we cut down forests, pollute the air and rivers, and mine minerals from the earth, we destroy nature. Such a destruction of nature is adversely affecting human life.



OBJECTIVES

After completing this lesson, you will be able to:

- *know the definition and significance of environment;*
- *understand the various environmental problems such as pollution, degradation, depletion of resources;*
- *explain the meaning of sustainable development;*
- *tell the ways to achieve sustainable development.*

23.1 THE ENVIRONMENT: DEFINITION AND SIGNIFICANCE

The **environment** encompasses all living and non-living things occurring naturally on Earth or some region thereof. It includes all the biotic and abiotic factors that



influence each other in nature. All the living elements like birds, animals, plants, forests, etc. comprise the **biotic** elements. On the other hand, everything non-living like air, water, rocks, sun, etc. are examples of the **abiotic** component of the environment. A study of the environment is thus a study of the inter-relationship between the abiotic and the biotic components of the environment.

Significance of the Environment

1. The environment provides various resources to man-both renewable and non-renewable. Renewable resources are those resources which are replenished easily over time, and hence can be used without the possibility of the resource becoming depleted or exhausted. Examples of **renewable** resources include trees in the forests, fishes in the ocean, etc. **Non-renewable** resources, on the other hand, are those resources which can get exhausted or depleted over time as they are used up. Examples of non-renewable resources include fossil fuels and minerals like petroleum, natural gas, coal, etc. Thus these resources need to be used carefully, while keeping in mind the requirements of the future generations.

Do you know?

Based on current projections, within around 50- 75 years, all the world's extractable coal, oil, natural gas, and uranium-235 deposits- that is, all our current energy sources-would have been used up.

2. The environment is also an absorber of harmful wastes and byproducts, that is, it assimilates waste products. The smoke from chimneys and exhaust pipes of vehicles, sewage from cities and towns, industrial effluents are all absorbed by the environment. These harmful wastes and byproducts are absorbed, cleaned and recycled by various natural processes.
3. The environment also sustains life by providing bio diversity. The genetic variations created by the pressures exerted by the environment on various life forms allows those life forms to adapt, evolve and produce genetic variations which can survive in harsh environments. Hence the environment produces and maintains relationships between different life forms and the abiotic components and sustains life. It is therefore important to preserve these life forms by preserving the environment.
4. Apart from the biological significance of the environment, the environment is also important from the aesthetic point of view. It provides scenery and landscapes to us which are priceless to us, and often play an important role in man's culture around the world.



INTEXT QUESTIONS 23.1

1. What is meant by 'environment'?
2. Name two main components of environment.
3. Name two renewable and two non-renewable resources.



Notes

23.2 ENVIRONMENTAL PROBLEMS

With the advance of human civilization, human wants have expanded and diversified. This has led to a rapid depletion of natural resources. Many resources are being used up at a rapid rate, which has caused over-utilization and depletion of many resources. With the rapid use of resources, a lot of accompanying environmental problems has cropped up. These include pollution of air and water, degradation of natural resources like soil and forests, and the depletion of non-renewable resources like fossil fuels and minerals. In the sections below you will read about these environmental problems and understand the significance of their impact on the economy and the planet earth.

23.2.1 Pollution

The term **pollution** refers to an undesirable change in the quality of a natural resource or the natural ecosystem. The change may be harmful to life immediately or over a long period of time. Thus, pollution adversely affects the health of living beings.

Pollution is caused by a pollutant. A **pollutant** is a waste material or substance which causes an undesirable change in a natural resource or ecosystem. Smoke, dust and poisonous gases in the atmosphere and industrial effluents and sewage from cities in water are some common examples of pollutants. Further, human activities also generate heat and create noise or harm living beings in a multitude of other ways.

23.2.1.1 Air pollution

Air pollution is the introduction of chemicals, particulate matter, or biological materials that cause harm or discomfort to humans or other living organisms, or cause damage to the natural environment or built environment, into the atmosphere. Major air pollutants include sulphur oxides, nitrogen oxides, carbon monoxide, carbon dioxide (which is also a major greenhouse gas), toxic metals, and particulate matter.

Do you know?

The World Health Organization states that 2.4 million people die each year from causes directly attributable to air pollution. Worldwide more deaths per year are linked to air pollution than to automobile accidents.



Effects of air pollution:

The health effects caused by air pollution may include difficulty in breathing, wheezing, coughing and aggravation of existing respiratory and cardiac conditions. These effects can result in increased medication, increased doctor or emergency room visits, more hospital admissions and premature death.

Sources of Air Pollution

Major **artificial sources** (caused by human beings) of air pollution include:

- Smoke from power plants, factories, incinerators, furnaces, etc.
- Exhaust of vehicles and automobiles like cars, buses, bikes, airplanes, ships, etc.
- Chemicals like pesticides and fertilizers and dust from farming and other agricultural practices.
- Fumes from paint, hair spray, varnish, aerosol sprays and other solvents.
- Waste deposition in landfills, which generates methane, which also contributes to global warming.

Major **natural sources** of air pollution include:

- Dust from natural sources, usually barren land.
- Methane, emitted by the digestion of food by animals, for example cattle.
- Smoke, particulate matter and carbon monoxide from wildfires.
- Volcanic activity, which produce sulphur, chlorine, and ash particulates.

23.2.1.2 Water pollution

Water pollution is the contamination of water bodies (example lakes, rivers, oceans and groundwater) by pollutants discharged directly or indirectly into water bodies without adequate treatment to remove harmful compounds. Major sources of water pollution include industrial chemicals and effluents, nutrients, waste water, sewage, etc.

Effects of water pollution:

A number of waterborne diseases such as cholera, typhoid, diarrhea etc. are produced by the pathogens present in polluted water, affecting human beings and animals alike. Water Pollution affects the chemistry of water. The pollutants, including toxic chemicals can alter the acidity, conductivity and temperature of water. It also kills life that inhabits water-based ecosystems like fish, birds, plants, etc. and hence disturbs the natural food-cycle, which causes instability in ecosystems.



Notes

Sources of Water Pollution

Major **sources** of water pollution include:

- Discharge from sewage treatment plants and sewage pipes from cities and towns.
- Industrial effluents released by factories into water bodies.
- Chemicals like pesticides and fertilizers from agricultural farms which constitute runoff from farms.
- Contaminated storm water from storm water drains in cities.
- Release of heated or radioactive water by power plants into water.
- Oil spills and leakages from tankers and oil rigs.
- Growth of algae in water bodies.

23.2.1.3 Noise pollution

Noise pollution is an excessive and displeasing environmental noise that disrupts the activity or balance of human or animal life.

Effects of noise pollution:

Noise pollution in the form of unwanted sound can damage physiological and psychological health. Noise pollution can cause annoyance and aggression, hypertension, high stress levels, hearing loss, sleep disturbances, and other harmful effects. Chronic exposure to noise may cause noise-induced hearing loss. People exposed to significant occupational noise demonstrate significantly reduced hearing sensitivity compared to non-exposed people. High and moderately-high noise levels can contribute to cardiovascular effects, a rise in blood pressure, and an increase in stress thus affecting the physical and mental health of people.

Sources of Noise Pollution

Major **sources** of noise pollution include:

- Vehicular traffic, like cars, buses, airplanes, trains etc.
- Industrial processes like stone crushing, making of steel plates, sawing, printing, etc.
- Construction work on roads, bridges, buildings, etc.
- Various noises from houses like stereos, televisions, etc.
- Consumer products like air conditioners, refrigerators, etc.



In the above section you have read about different types of pollution, their sources and effects. Think of different kinds of pollution which affect you and your family and make a list of them. What are the measures you or your family and community can take to reduce the harmful effects of pollution?



INTEXT QUESTIONS 23.2

1. What is a pollutant?
2. Name any two sources of air pollution.
3. Name two harmful affects of water pollution.
4. What is meant by noise pollution?

23.2.2 Degradation

In the following sections you will read about two different kinds of degradation- soil and habitat degradation.

23.2.2.1 Soil degradation

Soil degradation refers to an undesirable or deleterious change or disturbance in the quality of the soil. It leads to a change in the species of plants and animals in an area, and often leads to a loss of quality and productivity of the soil in an area. The soil loses its natural nutrients, minerals and organic matter (known as **humus**) and disrupts the natural balance of the natural ecosystem. The soil hence becomes unfit or unsuitable for growing plants and crops.

Causes of Soil Degradation

Major **causes** of soil degradation include:

- Excessive use of chemical fertilizers and pesticides, which causes soil acidification, increases salinity and alkalinity of the soil, reduces organic matter, and increases levels of organic pollutants and toxins and heavy metals (like Cadmium, Lead, etc.).
- Waterlogging caused by excessive irrigation and failure to subsequently drain the water from the fields causes an increase in salt content of the soil, making it unfit for growing plants, as well as serves as a breeding ground for mosquitos.
- Overgrazing by animals in fields, which reduces plant cover and leaves the soil prone to erosion.



Do you know?

Damage from soil erosion worldwide is estimated to be \$400 billion per year (around Rs 20 lakh crores per year). As a result of erosion over the past 40 years, 30 percent of the world's arable land has become unproductive.

Effects of soil degradation

Soil degradation can significantly reduce the yield potential of soil for growing crops. The presence of pollutants in soil also leads to pollution of groundwater, which has increased levels of nutrients, organic toxins, and heavy metals. Also, degradation of soil causes the soil to lose its green cover, and hence reduces biodiversity in that region, as the growth of plants in an area is essential for animals to survive and for the food chain to function normally. This also leads to extinction of plant and animal species. Soil degradation also leads to desertification, that is, the land gradually gets converted into a desert which becomes unfit for cultivation or habitation.

23.2.2.2 Habitat degradation

Habitat degradation refers to the process in which habitats lose their normal functioning or quality to support native life due to human activities. Habitat degradation leads to a reduced **carrying capacity** of that area, that is, the number of animals or plants of a particular species the area can support. This leads to a reduced population of various species in that area (or habitat) which in turn leads to an imbalance in the natural food chain and ecosystem. This imbalance can lead to the mass extinction of many plants and animals on our planet.

Causes of Habitat Degradation

Major **causes** of habitat degradation:

- Deforestation and wood extraction for the timber industry.
- Conversion of forest land into agricultural land
- Urban expansion of natural habitats
- Soil erosion and desertification, which can lead to whole forests degenerating into deserts.
- Slashing or slash-and-burn agricultural methods, where forests are burnt and crops grown using the ashes as a natural fertilizer.

Effects of habitat degradation:

Habitat destruction vastly increases an area's vulnerability to natural disasters like flood and drought, crop failure, spread of disease, and water contamination. Agricultural land too suffers from the destruction of the surrounding landscape.



Over the past 50 years, the destruction of habitat surrounding agricultural land has degraded approximately 40% of agricultural land worldwide through erosion, nutrient depletion, pollution, etc. Habitat degradation has also led to the loss of many valuable ecosystem services like the nitrogen, phosphorus, sulphur and carbon cycles, which in turn has increased the frequency and severity of acid rain, algal blooms, and fish kills in rivers and oceans and contributed tremendously to global climate change. It also leads to loss of biodiversity and species extinction, which upsets the natural balance and may alter the ecosystem. Aesthetic uses such as bird watching, recreational uses like hunting and fishing, and ecotourism are also affected adversely by habitat degradation, as most of them rely upon virtually undisturbed habitat.

Do you know?

If the current rate of deforestation continues, there will only be 10% of the world's tropical forests left by 2030, and another 10% in a degraded state.

23.2.3 Depletion of Resources

Resource depletion is an economic term referring to the exhaustion of raw materials in an area or region. Resource depletion is most commonly used in reference to farming, fishing and mining. Today's economy is largely based on fossil fuels, minerals and oil. The value of these resources has increased over time as demand for them has increased rapidly, while at the same time the supplies of these resources have decreased considerably due to over-exploitation.

Many resources which are so essential in our lives—example petroleum, natural gas, coal, uranium-235, and gold are becoming increasingly difficult to find. The reserves of many natural resources have been diminishing rapidly in the last 100-150 years, as the human population has been increasing significantly and hence the demand for the resources has been increasing. The search for new reserves of these resources is expensive, and often does not yield any new mines. The earth is quickly running out of resources, as we are putting too large a burden on it, caused due to overpopulation.

Alongside the depletion of the resources, many environmental effects are also caused by the over-exploitation of mineral resources. Global warming, air, water and soil pollution, loss of biodiversity all accompany mining and drilling projects and extraction and purification procedures for these resources.

To stop the harmful effects of resource depletion and other environmental problems, we need to carefully monitor resources usage and check the environmental effects of resource depletion. Many agencies around the world like UNEP (United Nations Environment Programme), EPA (Environment Protection Agency), IPCC (Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change), and in India the MEF (Ministry of Environment and Forests) along with many NGOs worldwide actively advocate the



protection of the environment throughout the world, and implement acts and laws to protect the environment and prevent the overexploitation of resources.

The careful usage of the limited resources available to human beings, which is now being advocated as an essential solution to the worldwide environmental crisis that threatens our very existence, is also referred to as **sustainable development**, which is explained in detail along with its significance in the following pages of this chapter.



INTEXT QUESTIONS 23.3

1. What is meant by degradation of soil.
2. What are two different kinds of degradation of environment?

23.3 SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

Sustainable Development is a pattern of resource use that aims to meet human needs while preserving the environment so that these needs can be met not only in the present, but also for generations to come. Sustainable development has been defined in many ways, but the most frequently quoted definition is from *Our Common Future*, also known as the *Brundtland Report*. According to this definition, “Sustainable development is development that meets the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs.”

This definition emphasizes two important things. One, that natural resources are vital to every one of us- even to the unborn future generations. Two, that it is a long term concept. It does not narrowly focus only on the present economic growth but it also takes into account the future economic growth.

In the above section you have read about different resources like air, water, minerals etc. which are essential to meet our needs. If we pollute the air and water sources and deplete the non-renewable resources like coal, petroleum, natural gas etc. then future generations would suffer. The concept of sustainable development therefore emphasizes that we have no right to deny the right to life to future generations. The world’s stock of resources is not only meant for present generation but also for future generations. That is why it is our responsibility to use the environment judiciously to meet our needs of today, then bequeath them to our children and grandchildren (the future generations) so that they are able to meet their own needs as well.

Sustainable development, is, therefore, a kind of development that takes into account the needs of the economy, and the environment without compromising either of the aspects. If the economic development is **sustainable** then the present use of natural resources will not limit us from their use in the future. Thus sustainable development tells us that development must be of a kind which can take care of our needs as well as the needs of future generations. That makes it a long term concept.



23.4 HOW CAN WE ACHIEVE SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT?

In this chapter we have learnt about how the growth of population and mankind's quest for economic development and a better quality of life in the last two centuries has caused a lot of problems to our environment and the planet earth. The problems we focused on were pollution, degradation and depletion of resources.

We also learnt about the meaning of sustainable development and how important it is to keep in mind the development and wellbeing of future generations. But how do we **achieve** sustainable development? The environmental crisis we face is serious and pressing. However, by taking swift and decisive action, we can tide over the crisis.

All definitions of sustainable development require that we see the world as a whole. You have already understood that the concept of sustainable development is a long-term concept that gives equal importance to development of future generations also. Sustainable development also emphasizes that actions and measures taken in one part of the world has consequences for people in other parts of the world. For development to be sustainable we must think of development not only for our community or village or country but for the world as a whole. To give an example, if factories emit smoke in North America, then that air pollution from North America affects air quality in Asia. Similarly, pesticides sprayed in Bangladesh could harm fish stocks off the coast of West Bengal.

Measures for sustainable development therefore focus on policies that must be adopted in the whole world. Some of these policies are implemented at the level of governments of individual countries while others require coordination at the international level.

Some examples of ways in which we can contribute to sustainable development are given below.

- **Resources-** finding substitutes for nonrenewable resources and using renewable resources judiciously. Solar energy, wind energy, hydropower, tidal energy and biofuels (like gobar gas) are being widely and increasingly used as substitutes for energy sources like coal, oil and natural gas that are being depleted rapidly. In many villages of India, solar energy appliances like solar cookers, solar lanterns and solar heaters are being encouraged and promoted by the government. In coastal areas the wind energy harnessed by windmills is being used to generate electricity.
- **Recycling -** to use again, to re-process. To make paper we need wood pulp which comes from trees. Therefore by recycling used paper we can contribute to saving trees from being cut down. Water is a scarce resource yet we do not use water judiciously. We can reuse rainwater by rainwater harvesting.



Notes

- **Reduce** - to use less or economize. Our consumption should be restrained to meeting our basic needs. We can walk instead of driving to the local market or climb using stairs instead of taking a lift, switch off fans and lights that we don't need.

As an exercise, consider how you could promote sustainable development in your local community. What can you do to improve your local environment? Write down how your actions can help improve the environment and the lives of people who live in other parts of the world.



INTEXT QUESTIONS 23.4

1. What do you mean by sustainable development?
2. Give one example of recycling of products for sustainable development of the environment.



WHAT YOU HAVE LEARNT

- The environment includes all the biotic and abiotic factors that influence each other in nature.
- Resources may be renewable like forests, and non-renewable like petroleum.
- Pollution is an undesirable change in the quality of a natural resource or natural eco-system.
- Air pollution causes difficulty in breathing, coughing etc. water pollution causes water borne diseases like cholera, typhoid, diarrhea etc.
- Noise pollution can cause hypertension, hearing loss, etc.
- Soil degradation reduces the yield potential of soil for growing crops.
- Resource depletion refers to the exhaustion of raw material in an area or region.
- Sustainable development is a development that meets the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs.
- We can contribute to sustainable development
 - (i) By finding substitute for non-renewable resources and using renewable resources judiciously.
 - (ii) By recycling the used products
 - (iii) By restraining our consumption.

**TERMINAL EXERCISE**

1. Distinguish between renewable and non-renewable resources. Give at least two examples of each.
2. With the advance of human civilization many environmental problems have cropped up. Do you agree? Give reasons for your answer.
3. What is meant by air pollution. Name any three major sources of air pollution. What are its harmful effects?
4. What is water pollution? Mention major sources of water pollution. What are its harmful effects.
5. What is noise pollution? Name its major sources. Describe its harmful effects.
6. What is meant by soil degradation? What are its major causes? Write two harmful effects of soil degradation.
7. What do you mean by habitat degradation? Mention its major causes. What are harmful effects of habitat degradation?
8. What is meant by depletion of resources? Give two examples of resources whose reserves have been diminishing rapidly in the last 100-150 years.
9. What is meant by sustainable development? Suggest two ways by which we can contribute to sustainable development.

**ANSWERS TO INTEXT QUESTIONS****Intext Questions 23.1**

1. The environment encompasses all living and non-living things occurring naturally on earth or some region thereof.
2. (i) Biotic element (ii) Abiotic elements
3. Renewable resources: Forest, water
Non-renewable : Petroleum, coal

Intext Questions 23.2

1. A pollutant is waste material or substance which causes an undesirable change in natural resource or eco-system.



2. (i) smoke from factories
(ii) Exhaust of automobiles
3. (i) Causes diseases like cholera, typhoid etc.
(ii) kills aquatic life
4. Excessive and displeasing environmental noise that disrupts the activity or balance of humans and animal life, is noise pollution.

Intext Questions 23.3

1. Soil degradation refers to a undesirable or deleberious change or disturbance in the quality of soil.
2. (i) Soil degradation
(ii) Habitat degradation

Intext Questions 23.4

1. Sustainable development is a pattern of resource use that aims to meet human needs with preserving the environment so that these needs can be met not only in the present, but also for generations to come.
2. We can reuse rain water by rain water harvesting



CONSUMER AWARENESS

To satisfy various wants people purchase goods and services by paying price. But what to do if the goods and services bought are found out to be bad in quality or unreasonably priced or measured less in quantity etc. In such situations the consumers, instead of getting satisfaction, feel cheated by the sellers who have sold the goods and services. They also feel that they should be properly compensated for the loss. So there should be a system to redress such issues. On the other hand consumers should also realize that they do have responsibilities not just rights.



OBJECTIVES

After completing this lesson, you will be able to:

- know the meaning of a consumer, goods and services and consumer awareness;
- understand the need for consumer awareness;
- explain the consumer redressal system in India;
- realise the rights and responsibilities of consumers;
- understand the procedures for filing the complaints in the consumer courts;
- know the challenges of consumers' movement in India.

24.1 SOME DEFINITIONS

First let us know the meaning of - a consumer, goods and services and consumer awareness.

• Who is a consumer?

To begin with, let us know the definition of a consumer. A consumer is the buyer of goods and services. The user of goods and services with the permission of the buyer is also treated as a consumer. But a person is not a consumer if he/she purchases goods and services for resale purpose.



- **What are goods and services?**

Goods are those products which are manufactured or produced and sold to consumers through wholesalers and retailers. Service means service of any description which is made available to the potential user with respect to the provision of facilities in connection with banking, finance, insurance, transport, supply of electrical or other energy, housing, construction, water supply, health, entertainment, amusement etc. It does not include any service rendered free of charge or under a contract of personal service.

- **Consumer Awareness**

Consumer awareness refers to the combination of the following :

- (i) The knowledge of the product purchased by the consumers in terms of its quality. For example the consumer should know whether the product is good for health or not, whether the product is free of creating any environmental hazard or not etc.
- (ii) The education about the various types of hazards and problems associated with marketing of a product - For example, one way of marketing a product is advertisement through news papers, television etc. Consumers should have proper education about the bad effects of advertisement. They must also verify the contents of the advertisement.
- (iii) The knowledge about 'Consumer Rights' - This means that, first, the consumer must know that he/she has the right to get the right kind of product. Secondly, if the product is found out to be faulty in some manner, the consumer should have knowledge of claiming compensation as per the law of the land.
- (iv) The knowledge about consumer's own responsibilities- This implies that consumers should not indulge in wasteful and unnecessary consumption.

24.2 NEED FOR CONSUMER AWARENESS

The market today is flooded with very large number as well as varieties of goods and services. The number of producers and final sellers of the commodities have also increased many folds. So it has become very difficult to know as to who is a genuine producer or seller? It is practically not possible for consumers to personally come in contact with a producer or seller. Moreover in the age of advanced information technology the physical distance between consumer and producer/seller has also increased, since consumers can get their commodities at door step by booking orders over telephone or through internet etc. Similarly from among large varieties of commodities, it has become very difficult to know as to which one is genuine? People think that a product which has appeared in some advertisement must be good or the

**Notes**

producer whose name is known through advertisement must be selling the right product. But this may not be true always. Much information is deliberately hidden in certain advertisements to mislead the consumers.

In case of packed food products and medicines, there is an expiry date which implies that the particular product must be consumed before that date and not at all after that date. This information is very important because it involves the health of the consumer. Some times it so happens that either such information is not provided or the seller deliberately did not give the information since the consumer did not ask for it or notice the inscription written on the product.

It also happens many times that a consumer buys goods and services without taking the bill or the seller does not provide the bill. This is done to avoid paying tax on the product to the government. Such a tax is value added tax (VAT) i.e. a type of tax that is place on a product whenever value is added at a stage of production and at final sale. If this tax is included then price of the product will be higher because of the tax and accordingly it will be acknowledged by providing the bill. But in order to attract the consumer by selling the product at a lower price, the seller deducts the tax and so does not provide the bill. Just because the price is less the consumer also does not bother to ask for the bill. Such practice creates two serious problems. One, the government is deprived of its tax revenue and two, the consumer may suffer if the product comes out to be faulty and he/she cannot even return the product or file a complaint since there is no bill to give proof of purchase.

Another major issue is that the consumers are not united. Producers have become stronger and organised because there are Producers' and Traders' Associations to protect their interest. But the buyers are still weak and unorganised. As a result the buyers are duped and deceived quite often.

Because of the above arguments it is very important for consumers to protect themselves from the unfair trade practices of the traders and service providers. They need to be aware of their rights as consumers and use them promptly.

It should be noted that consumer awareness is not just only about consumers' rights. It is a well known fact that many consumers around the world have been indulging in mindless and wasteful consumption because of their money power. This has divided the society into rich consumers and the poor. Similarly many consumers are also not bothered about the safe disposal of wastes after consumption is over which causes environmental pollution. By agreeing to pay a lower price for the product without asking for the bill, many consumers indirectly help the sellers to avoid paying tax to the government. Hence there is also need for consumer awareness to educate the consumers about their responsibilities.

Consumers also need to act more responsibly and join hands with the government.



INTEXT QUESTIONS 24.1

1. Who is not a consumer?
2. Why must the consumers take the bill on purchase of a product?
3. What is VAT?



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24.3 CONSUMER REDRESSAL SYSTEM IN INDIA

There is legal and administrative machinery working in the field of consumer education in our country. It is important for you to understand it.

Consumer redressal system is a system under which the consumers can file a complaint in a consumer court and demand justice when they are cheated by the sellers or manufacturers of the commodity or service they buy. **It comprises of the Laws to protect the interest of the consumers and the Institutions to enforce the laws to uphold consumers' rights.** Thanks to the government, we have consumer laws made through legislations in our country with a special focus on consumer education. The purpose is to help the people understand their rights and responsibilities as consumers and to redress their grievance. There are also existence of Institutions in the form of government departments and consumer courts to deal with the grievances of the affected consumers. Let us discuss them below.

24.3.1 Government Legislations

We have had several government legislations in our country even before independence to protect the rights of the consumers. But Consumer Protection Act 1986(CPA) is the most important one and gives you as a consumer all the support and guidance against violation of your rights. CPA is specifically designed to protect consumer interest.

There are a couple of other legislations aimed at providing consumer protection, enacted after independence, like Prevention of food adulteration Act(PFA) 1954, the Essential Commodities Act, 1955 (ECA) and the Standard of Weights and Measures Act(SWMA) of 1976.

The CPA was enacted with the objective of providing 'cheap', 'simple' and 'quick' justice to the millions of consumers in the country. It ensures justice which is less formal, involves less paperwork, cut delays and is less expensive. CPA applies to all goods and services, unless specifically exempted. It covers the private, public and cooperative sectors. It also empowers a consumer to haul up municipal authorities in consumer courts if they fail to provide all the services ranging from street lighting and drinking water to drainage and health.



Notes

Among other measures included in CPA some recent ones are:

- Consumers are allowed to decide where they want to seek redressal.
- A company cannot insist on being liable to be tried only in a court of its choice.
- Consumers are allowed to sue service providers of a company for passing on their personal information to salespersons e.g. banks, insurance company etc.
- Real estate developers are classified as traders and liable to be tried in a consumer court.
- Oversees agencies operating through e-commerce sites on the internet or telemarketing are not allowed to sell their products unless they maintain an office in India. They have to organise the inspection of goods prior to purchase, or refund goods within 30days.
- Officials and stakeholders like state government departments of post and telecom, passport offices, municipal services, Central Government Health Scheme (CGHS) and railways are demanding exemption from the Act fearing, they will have to face a barrage of litigation.



INTEXT QUESTIONS 24.2

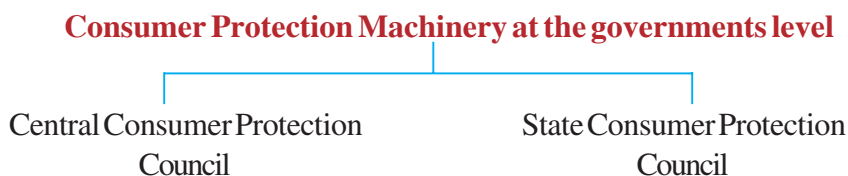
1. Give the full form of CPA, ECA and SWMA?
2. How can a foreign agency sell its product in India?

24.3.2 Institutions to Deal with Consumers' Grievances

The citizens of India have an Institutional machinery, to deal with consumers' grievances, working at all levels: national, state and district. There are two types of institutions- (i) Government Councils and (ii) Consumer Courts. Besides this there are also several Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs) registered under the government law which provide various kinds of support to the aggrieved consumers.

(i) Government Councils

Read the following flow chart to know the government councils working at national and state levels.

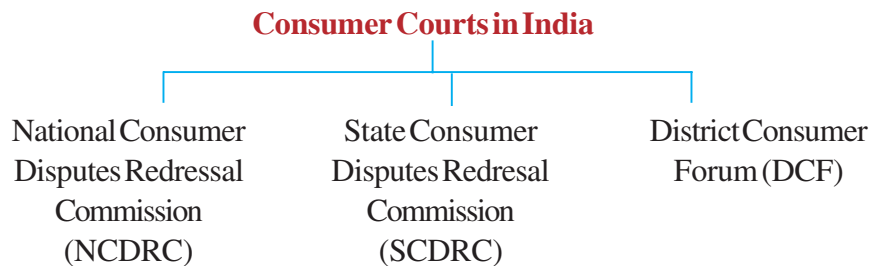




As shown in the chart there is a Central Consumer Protection Council (CCPC) at the National Level which is headed by a Central Minister in-charge of the Consumer Affairs in the Central Government at New Delhi. At the State Level there is a State Consumer Protection Council (SCPC) in each state of India which is headed by a State Minister in-charge of the Consumer Affairs in the State Government.

Consumer Courts

Read the following flow chart to know the types of Consumer Courts working at national and state and district levels.



As given in the chart, there are three layers of Consumer Courts in India. At the bottom is the District Consumer Forum (DCF) at the district level in the state. There are 604 District Forums in the country now.

At the mid level there is State Consumer Disputes Redressal Commission (SCDRC). There are 35 State Commissions in the country.

Finally at the top there is an apex body known as National Consumer Disputes Redressal Commission (NCDRC) working hand-in-hand to provide cheap, speedy and simple redressal to consumer disputes in the country.

A Consumer Court is quasi-judicial in nature and is directly accountable to the people. The central and the state governments are responsible for making policies with respect to the working of these courts.

24.3.3 Redressal Mechanism

Now the question arises- How a consumer who feels cheated can get justice or relief in the form of compensations? For this he or she can approach any consumer court by filing a written complaint on his/her own or through a lawyer. The particular court that he/she must approach depends on the value of the commodity. In case of any product or in respect of a service valuing up to Rs. 20 lakhs the affected consumer can file a written complaint before the District Consumer Forums. If the value is up to Rs. 1 crore, then he/she has to approach the State Commission. Finally, for value above Rs. 1 crore, the consumer should approach the National Commission for grant of relief. According to CPA the relief should be given within 90-150 days and if a consumer is not satisfied by the decision of the District Forum he/she can challenge the same before the State



Commissions. If still not satisfied with the order of the State Commission, the consumer can go to the National Commission.

24.3.4 What You Need To Do? How to file a Complaint?

For filing a complaint, the aggrieved consumer must always keep the cash memo, receipt or bill of the product he/she has purchased. The format to file a complaint is located on the booklet provided by consumer protection Act. Then the person must select the proper category under which he/she is filing the complaint. These categories are - unfair trade practice, deficiency of service etc. Then the nature of the complaint needs to be explained in simple words. The consumer should be clear about the fault and what he/she wants as a remedy i.e a replacement or a refund or compensation in case of a service. The documents like the receipt or other evidences must be attached along with the complaint. There has to be three copies of the entire set; one for the complainant, one for the other party against whom the complaint has been made and one for the consumer court. Some nominal filing fees have to be paid to the court by the complainant in the form of a demand draft.

It should be noted that a complaint should be filed within 2 years of the date on which the defect occurs. This is not dependent on the purchase date. The affected consumer can either appear in person, send a representative or a lawyer or even a letter. In case, a complainant has died, his legal heirs can go to the court. If not satisfied with decision of the lower court, the person must appeal to a higher court within 30 days of the lower courts' order. Remember, however, that the court can fine you up to Rs. 10,000/- if it thinks that the consumer has filed a frivolous complaint. Check the latest rules by visiting local consumer rights officer or online at the web sites - ncdr.nic.in and core.nic.in.

Now a days communication through internet has become a way of life. So a person can also mail the complaint. The e-mail ID/Website is printed on the cover of the product.

24.3.5 Role of NGOs

In case the producer/company/seller gives the aggrieved party a cold shoulder then the role of non- governmental organisations i.e NGOs becomes very important. One can lodge complaints with some NGO's like Consumer Grievance (www.consumer-grievance.com), Consumer Guidance Society of India (www.cgs_india.org), Common Cause (www.commoncauseindia.org) and Consumer Forum (www.consumer.org.in). NGOs not only help in filing a case but also they provide logistic, manpower and other supports. NGOs also conduct various programmes to educate consumers about their rights and responsibilities.

One can also approach consumer help organisation called Jago Grahak Jago. Almost every newspaper provides complete information about it through advertisement. The online grievance form can be had by visiting the site.



Some other web sites for banking, insurance, tax and telecom related problems are:

- www.banking_ombudsman.rbi.org.in
- www.irdaindia.org
- www.incometaxindia.gov.in
- www.trai.gov.in

24.3.6 The Grounds for Filing a Complaint

The deficiency in a service is one of the grounds for filing a complaint under the Act. The term deficiency has been defined as any fault, imperfection, shortcoming or inadequacy in the quality, nature and manner of performance which is required to be maintained by or has been undertaken to be performed by a person in pursuance of a contract or otherwise in relation to any service. Compensation has to be paid by the wrong doer for their faulty or defective goods and services.



INTEXT QUESTIONS 24.3

1. Name the government councils which deal with consumer grievances at national and state levels?
2. Name the consumer courts at national and state and district levels?
3. When a complaint can be filed in the consumer court?

24.4 CONSUMERS' RIGHTS

The purchase of goods and services entitles you to certain rights as a consumer. They are as follows.

24.4.1 Right to Information

This right states that sellers and producers should always provide consumers with enough and appropriate information regarding the price, weight, company brand, manufacturing & expiry dates, quality identification marks, ingredients, contact links of the company and so on, to make intelligent and informed product choices. Here is an example from the services sector.

When a customer was trying to find the lowest fare to travel from Delhi to Bangalore, the results of the search indicated airfares from Rs. 1450 onwards. He chose a flight that costed Rs. 1500/- plus taxes. He has no idea what the tax component was. As



Notes

he proceeded with the booking, he got to know that Rs. 1500 is the basic fare and on that, taxes and other fees cost another Rs. 3445 and the final fare will be Rs. 4995.

Now why can't the airlines and portals be more honest and transparent and mention the actual fare clearly at the beginning? Why should they mislead consumers into paying three times more than what they first see? You have to be cautious and get full information from such service providers who are concealing part of the information on the basis of which they would later harass the consumers.

24.4.2 Right to Choose

The consumers have the Right to Choose regarding what to buy and what not to buy. Sometimes when you receive a service or purchase a good you cannot do so because you are forced to buy things that you may not wish to. The shopkeeper puts a condition and you are left with no choice. You as a consumer lose your right to choose. Read the case below:

“When Senthil applied for a new gas connection, little did he realise it would be the first step towards a troublesome journey. He walked into the Kumaran Gas Agency for a Bharat Gas cylinder, assuming he would have to pay Rs. 1500/-. Instead he walked out poorer by Rs. 7000/- after being forced to buy products he did not really need such as a pressure cooker, gas lighter; even a packet of detergent. The reason; the agency insisted that it was mandatory for a new customer to acquire the whole ‘kit’. Senthil complained to the Consumer Online Resource and Empowerment Centre (CORE) which sent a mail to the agency. Within a week he was refunded about Rs. 5000/-. Contrary to general belief, this customer is a proof that resolving a grievance need not be long and financially draining”. (India infoline News Service, Mumbai, April 2, 2009)

24.4.3 Right to Safety

This right provides protection against the marketing of goods that are unsafe to the health and life e.g. adulteration in food, medicines, electronics and so on.

24.4.4 Right to be Heard

This right ensures that consumers' interest will be given due consideration in the appropriate forums. This right also empowers the Indian consumers to fearlessly voice their complaints against the defective products and the erring producer/company/seller.

24.4.5 The Right to Seek Redressal

In case of cheating, fraud or any other injustice as explained above the consumer can get compensation for the damage caused by the unfair and exploitative trade practices.



The redressal courts through their intervention help consumers get justice.

Let us look into some cases where the retailers violate consumer's right to redressal particularly in respect to goods bought during sale.

“A busy doctor bought 3 pairs of trousers at a discounted price of Rs. 2000/- each, during a sale from a well known retail brand from a particular outlet. However to his utter surprise, the fabric just gave way within a few wears, even before it was washed. On his complaint a person in-charge of the company showroom took back one pair and said, it would be sent to the company's quality cell for testing. A year has passed and he has neither heard from the company, nor got back his trousers.

Should the doctor not ask for his money and also for compensation for all the discomfort undergone in purchasing the trousers? The doctor has the right to seek redressal as a consumer.”

24.4.6 The Right to Consumer Education

It means to have access to programs and information that help consumers make better decisions before and after purchase. Instructions and guidelines for consumers are issued by the government departments and NGOs. This helps the consumers to take right decision with regard to purchase of a commodity. to bring Trademarks and Logos authentication marks such as ISI, AGMARK, BIS and other educational campaigns done in public interest.



INTEXT QUESTIONS 24.4

Mention the appropriate consumer right to file a complaint with regard to the following

1. A person falling sick after consuming a packaged food item.
2. A seller forcing a buyer to purchase a certain brand of goods and not showing other varieties of goods.
3. Samir wants to buy a computer and wants to know the exact configuration from the seller.
4. Rekha was cheated by a seller and wants to file a complaint.
5. Reshma has gone to a district consumer forum against the local hospital to seek compensation for wrong diagnosis for which she had to spend Rs. 2 lakhs unnecessarily.
6. You have requested the concerned department of Delhi Government to give you booklet on consumer protection act.



24.5 CONSUMERS' RESPONSIBILITIES

Consumer education is not always about rights of the consumers, but also about responsibilities and shouldering them honestly and sincerely. Let us highlight some of the issues here.

24.5.1 Dealing with Advertisements

Advertisements have become a part and parcel of our lives and even if we try we cannot avoid them. Companies are trying to sell their products by making attractive audio-visuals, publishing only that part which may be eye catching and hiding other crucial information and so on. Consumers need to be cautious of such deceptive advertisements. Children are the worst victims. They need to be guided properly.

24.5.2 Buying Quality Certified Products

There are lot of products which are certified by recognised agencies as safe to consume and good in quality. For example the Indian Standard Institute (ISI) conducts quality testing of many consumer goods. If found proper the product is labelled with ISI mark on it. For many food products the quality assurance is certified by seal called AGMARK. Consumers should choose products with ISI mark and AGMARK.

A very important thing before purchasing food products or medicines etc is that the consumer must see the expiry date.

24.5.3 Demanding Bill of the Purchase

Every consumer must demand the bill after purchase of goods and services. The bill is the proof of purchase and can be used to seek justice if the consumer feels cheated after buying the commodity. Through the bill the consumer also ensures that the government receives tax on the product because it is mandatory for the seller to mention the tax amount on the bill. Such act of the consumer makes him/her a responsible citizen of the country.

24.5.4 Being a Green Consumer

A consumer must consume those products which do not cause damage to our environment. Plastic bag is one example which has caused serious damage to the environment. People should use biodegradable products which can easily mix with soil and water after they are disposed off. Similarly people should save electricity, gas etc by judicious use. Consumers are also responsible for automobile pollution in town and cities. They should use public transport system and eco-friendly vehicles.

24.5.5 Consumers as Managers

Consumers can unite together to provide themselves and the community at large of a locality or village some basic needs such as drinking water supply, health, education etc.



It is the government who acts as the manager for delivery of services. But the government departments are often blamed for inefficient and erratic delivery of such services. So consumers can unite to provide such services. Read the following story:

Consumers as Managers

(A true story from Gujrat)

Gujrat has more than 13000 village 'Pani Samitis' which are acting as managers of service delivery at the village level. The village 'Pani Samitis' are formed in Gram Sabhas through consumers. They manage their in-village systems for water supply service upto the household level, with a strong sense of ownership. They are also testing the quality of water and providing quality assurance upto the consumers' level.

Community engagement for making people as managers has resulted in reducing the cost of delivery, timely and efficient delivery of water, efficient repairs of water supply system, efficient utilization of water resource, innovative tariff mechanisms measures for sustainability of water resources like developing 'check dams', ponds for recharging of ground water leading to conservation of water resources in the area.

In a vast country like India consumers have a responsibility to stand by the government. You can also play a constructive role by joining hands with your local water, electricity, sanitation boards, through the local federations of your locality or Gram Sabhas of your village.

24.6 MAJOR CONCERNS OF CONSUMER MOVEMENT IN INDIA

For successful consumer movement people need to be educated. India is not only highly populated but also culturally diverse and has vast number of illiterates. So bringing consumer awareness is a big task. It is slowly picking up and lots to be done in this regard. Two major concerns are (i) spreading consumer awareness in rural area of India and (ii) timely delivery of justice. Let us briefly discuss them below.

24.6.1 Consumer Awareness in Rural India

On account of the globalization and liberalisation, increase in middle income and high income population in the villages our rural markets are also expanding. So companies are reaching with their products to our rural markets as well. But the rural consumers in India are generally ignorant and illiterate. So they are exploited by the manufacturers, traders and service providers. Rural consumers face problems like fake brands, spurious products, lack warranties and guarantees, imitation, unreasonable pricing, lack of varieties and so on. There is a need for spreading consumer awareness in the rural areas more seriously.



Notes

24.6.2 Timely Delivery of Justice

You know that justice delayed is justice denied. Unlike the civil courts, the consumer courts are quasi-judicial bodies that need to follow a simple, summary procedure for quick disposal of complaints. However repeated adjournments, delays on the part of the state government to fill up the posts of judges and unnecessary technicalities slow down the process of justice for the consumers. Delays often take away the essence of the law. Read the following case that illustrates these points.

Following loss of yield during the sowing season of 1993 due to defective hybrid cotton seeds sold to them, 130 farmers from Maharashtra filed a class action suit seeking compensation. Eventually, they won the case, but it took 14 years during which time ten farmers had died.

The Government amended CPA in 2003 to eliminate such delays. Accordingly, consumer courts are not to give adjournments at all. In exceptional circumstances where it is given, the court has to record the reasons for it in writing and justify it.



INTEXT QUESTIONS 24.5

1. What should you do as a responsible consumer in the following cases
 - (a) To purchase an electric iron from among several brands available
 - (b) You are purchasing bread and fruit jam.
 - (c) The seller gives you the items in a polythene packet.
2. Give two reasons of delay in delivery of justice with respect to consumer grievances?



WHAT YOU HAVE LEARNT

- Consumer awareness includes knowledge of the products purchased along with their effects on health and environment and consumers rights and responsibilities.
- Need for consumer awareness arises due to several reasons such as- bad quality of goods and services sold, selling without providing bill, misleading advertisement, lack of complete information about the product and producer/seller, environmental pollution due to mindless and wasteful consumption etc.
- Consumer redressal system comprises of the Laws to protect the interest of the consumers and the Institutions to enforce the laws to uphold consumers' rights.



- Consumer Protection Act 1986(CPA) is the most important legislation to protect interest of the consumers.
- Central Consumer Protection Council (CCPC) at the National Level and State Consumer Protection Council (SCPC) at the State Level are government institutions which deal with consumer issues. NGOs also provide help.
- For redressal of grievances there are three layers of Consumer Courts in India with the District Consumer Forum (DCF) at the bottom, State Consumer Disputes Redressal Commission (SCDR) at the mid level and an apex body known as National Consumer Disputes Redressal Commission (NCDRC) at the top.
- A complaint can be filed by the affected consumer concerned or through a representative or through a letter in a prescribed form giving the nature of complaint and the bill within 2 years of purchase. A nominal fee must also be paid in the court.
- Consumers Rights in India include- Right to Information, Right to Safety, Right to Choose, Right to be Heard, , Right to Redressal and Right to Consumer Education.
- Consumers' Responsibilities include- not to be misled by advertisement, seek complete information for empowerment, checking the expiry date, quality assurance seal, demanding bill, avoiding wasteful and mindless consumption, protecting the environment etc.



TERMINAL EXERCISE

1. Why there is a need for consumer awareness?
2. What you must do as an aggrieved consumer to file a complaint?
3. Describe the consumer redressal system in India?
4. Give the provisions of Consumer Protection Act?
5. Discuss in brief the rights of consumers in India?
6. What you must do as a responsible consumer?
7. Explain two major challenges facing consumer movement in India?



ANSWERS TO INTEXT QUESTIONS

Intext Questions 24.1

1. A person is not a consumer if he/she purchases goods and services for resale purpose.



2. Because the bill is required to be produced before the consumer court if consumer finds the product to be faulty for which he/she wants to file a complaint. Bill also ensures that tax on the product has been paid to the government.
3. Value Added Tax.

Intext Questions 24.2

1. CPA- Consumer Protection Act
ECA- Essential Commodities Act
SWMA- Standard of Weights and Measures Act
2. By opening an office in India.

Intext Questions 24.3

1. Central Consumer Protection Council (CCPC) at the National Level and State Consumer Protection Council (SCPC) at the State Level.
2. National Consumer Disputes Redressal Commission (NCDRC) at the National Level, State Consumer Disputes Redressal Commission (SCDR) at the State Level District Consumer Forum (DCF) at the District Level.
3. Within 2 years from the date of purchase of the commodity.

Intext Questions 24.4

1. Right to Safety,
2. Right to Choose
3. Right to Information
4. Right to be Heard
5. Right to Consumer Education.

Intext Questions 24.5

1. (a) look for quality assurance seal such as ISI mark.
(b) Check the expiry date before purchase.
(c) say no to plastic bag and demand a cotton or jute bag.
2. Repeated adjournments and delay in appointment of judges by the government.