Manufacturing Industries

Long Answer Questions

1. What is the importance of manufacturing sector?

Ans. (i) Manufacturing industries not only help in modernising agriculture, which forms the backbone of our economy, they also reduce heavy dependence of people on agriculture by providing them jobs in secondary and tertiary sectors.

(ii) Industrial development helps in the eradication of unemployment and poverty. It was also aimed at bringing down regional disparities by establishing industries in tribal and backward areas.

(iii) Export of manufactured goods expands trade and commerce, and brings in much needed foreign exchange.

(iv) Countries that transform their raw materials into a wide variety of furnished goods of high value are prosperous. India's prosperity lies in increasing and diversifying its manufacturing industries as quickly as possible.

2. What factors are required to set up an industry in a region?

Ans. Factors required to set up an industry:

(i) Availability of raw materials: Raw materials should be easily available from nearby areas only.

(ii) Labour: Labour should be skilled and easily available from the neighbouring areas only.

(iii) Power supply: Without power supply, an industry cannot be run, so it should also be available as per the requirements.

(iv) Market: If it is a heavy material and a perishable good, market for the sale of the goods should also be available in a nearby area only.

3. How does the textile industry occupy a unique position in the Indian economy?

Ans. (i) It occupies a unique position in the Indian economy because it contributes significantly to the industrial production (14 per cent).

(ii) It employs about 35 million people directly and earns foreign exchange of about 24.6 per cent.

(iii) It contributes 4 per cent towards GDP.

(iv) It is the only industry in the country which is self-reliant and complete in the chain of raw material to the highest value added products.

4. What are the major drawbacks for the cotton textile industry?

Ans. Major drawbacks:

(i) India has a large share in the world trade of cotton yarn but its trade in readymade garments is only 4 per cent of the world's total.

(ii) India's spinning mills are competitive at the global level and capable of using all the fibres produced.

(iii) But the weaving, knitting and processing units cannot use much of the high quality yarn that is produced in the country.

(iv) There are some large and modern factories in these segments, but most of the productions are in fragmented small units, which cater to the local market.

This mismatch is a major drawback for the industry. As a result, many Indian spinners export cotton yarn while garment manufacturers have to import fabric.

5. Why are jute mills concentrated along the Hoogly river? Explain giving reasons.

Ans. Reasons for concentration of jute mills along the Hoogly river:

(i) West Bengal is the storehouse of jute. It produces the highest quantity of jute.

(ii) The industry requires a lot of water which is easily available from the Hoogly river.

(iii) Cheap labour is easily available because of migrating labour from neighbouring states of Bihar and Odisha.

(iv) Inexpensive water transport in the river Hoogly is available.

(v) A large urban sector in Kolkata provides banking, insurance and loan facilities.

(vi) Kolkata is a good harbour which can provide facilities for the export of jute products in various parts of the world.

6. Discuss the steps to be taken to minimise environmental degradation by industry.

Ans. To control water pollution:

(i) Minimising used water for processing by reusing and recycling it in two or more suggestive stages.

(ii) Harvesting of water can be done to meet water requirements.

(iii) Treating of hot water and effluents before releasing them in rivers and ponds.

Treatment of industrial effluents can be done in three phases:

(i) Primary treatment by mechanical means. It involves screening, grinding, flocculation and sedimentation.

(ii) Secondary treatment by biological process.

(iii) Tertiary treatment by biological, chemical and physical processes. This involves recycling of water.

To control air pollution:

(i) Particulate matter in the air can be reduced by fitting smoke stacks to factories with electrostatic precipitators, fabric filters and inertial separators.

(ii) Smoke can be reduced by using oil or gas instead of coal in factories or thermal power stations.

To counter noise pollution:

(i) Machinery and equipment can be used and generators should be fitted with silencers.

(ii) Almost all machinery can be redesigned to increase energy efficiency and reduce noise.

(ii) Noise absorbing material may be used apart from personal use of earplugs and earphones.

7. How does NTPC set an example of a pollution-free industry?

Ans. (i) Optimum utilisation of equipments adopting latest techniques and upgrading existing equipments.

(ii) Minimising waste generation by maximising ash utilisation.

(iii) Providing green belts for nurturing ecological balance.

(iv) Reducing environmental pollution through ash pond management, ash water recycling system and liquid waste management.

8. What is the contribution of industry to the national economy?

Ans. (i) Over the last two decades, the share of manufacturing sector has stagnated to 17 per cent of the GDP, which is required to be increased.

(ii) The trend of growth rate in manufacturing over the last decade is around 7 per cent per annum, whereas the desired growth rate is 12 per cent.

(iii) Since 2003, manufacturing is once again growing at the rate of 9 to 10 per cent per annum.

(iv) With proper policies of the government and efforts by the industry to improve productivity, economists predict that manufacturing can achieve its target over the next decade.

The National Manufacturing Competitiveness Council (NMCC) has been set up with this objective.

9. Classify industries on the basis of ownership.

Ans. On the basis of ownership, industries can be classified as:

(i) Public Sector: These industries are aimed and operated by the government agencies.

(ii) Private Sector: These industries are owned and operated by private entrepreneurs, e.g., TISCO, Bajaj Auto Ltd., Reliance Industries and
Dabur Industries, etc.

(iii) Joint Sector: These industries are jointly run by the state and individual or a group of individuals. Oil India Ltd (OIL) is jointly owned by public and private sectors.

(iv) Cooperative Sector: These industries are owned and operated by the producers or suppliers of raw materials, workers or both. They pool in the resources and share the profits or losses proportionately such as the sugar industry in Maharashtra, the coir industry in Kerala.

10. What is the status of India in jute production?

Ans. India is the largest producer of raw jute and jute goods and stands at second place as an exporter after Bangladesh. There are about 70 jute mills in India.
Most of these are located in West Bengal, mainly along the banks of the Hugli river, in a narrow belt. The first jute mill was set up near Kolkata in 1859 at Rishra. After partition in 1947, the jute mills remained in India but three-fourths of the jute producing areas became part of Bangladesh.

11. What is India's status in chemicals production?

Ans. The chemical industry in India is growing fast and diversifying. It contributes approximately six per cent of the GDP. It is the third largest in Asia and occupies the twelfth place in the world in terms of its size. It comprises both large- and small-scale manufacturing units. Rapid growth has been recorded in both inorganic and organic sectors.

12. What is the status of cement industry in India?

Ans. The first cement plant was set up in Chennai in 1904. After Independence, the industry expanded. Decontrol of price and distribution since 1989 and other policy reforms led the cement industry to make rapid strides in capacity, process, technology and production. There are 128 large plants and 332 mini cement plants in the country. India produces a variety of cement, which is needed for domestic as well as international market.

13. What is the present position of automobile industry in India?

Ans. Automobile industry provides vehicle for quick transport of goods and passengers. Trucks, buses, cars, motorcycles, scooters, three-wheelers and multi-utility vehicles are manufactured in India at various centres. After the liberalisation, the coming in of new and contemporary models stimulated the demand for vehicles in the market, which led to the healthy growth of the industry including passenger cars, two- and three-wheelers. The industry had experienced a quantum jump in less than 15 years. Foreign Direct Investment brought in new technology and aligned the industry with global developments.