

Geography

(India People and Economy) (Chapter - 3) (Exercises) (Human Development) (Class - XII)

Question 1:

Choose the right answers of the followings from the given options.

- (i) Which one of the following is India's rank in terms of Human Development Index among the countries of the world in 2016?
(a) 126 (c) 128
(b) 134 (d) 131
- (ii) Which one of the following states of India has the highest rank in the Human Development Index?
(a) Tamil Nadu (c) Kerala
(b) Punjab (d) Haryana
- (iii) Which one of the following states of India has the lowest female literacy?
(a) Jammu and Kashmir (c) Jharkhand
(b) Arunachal Pradesh (d) Bihar
- (iv) Which one of the following states of India has the lowest female child sex ratio 0-6 years?
(a) Gujarat (c) Punjab
(b) Haryana (d) Himachal Pradesh
- (v) Which one of the following Union Territories of India has the highest literacy rate?
(a) Lakshadweep (c) Daman and Diu
(b) Chandigarh (d) Andaman and Nicobar Islands

Answer 1:

- (i) (d) 131
(ii) (c) Kerala
(iii) (d) Bihar
(iv) (d) Haryana
(v) (a) Lakshadweep

Question 2:

Answer the following questions in about 30 words.

- (i) Define Human Development.
(ii) Give two reasons for low levels of Human Development in most of the Northern States of India?
(iii) Give two reasons for declining child sex ratio in India?

Answer 2:

- (i) The Human Development Index (HDI) is a summary measure of average achievement in key dimensions of human development: a long and healthy life, being knowledgeable and have a decent standard of living. The HDI is the geometric mean of normalized indices for each of the three dimensions. Human development – or the human development approach – is about expanding the richness of human life, rather than simply the richness of the economy in which human beings live. It is an approach that is focused on people and their opportunities and choices. The health dimension is assessed by life expectancy at birth, the education dimension is measured by mean of years of schooling for adults aged 25 years and more and expected years of schooling for children of school entering age. The standard of living dimension is measured by gross national income per capita.
- (ii) The reasons for low levels of Human Development in most of the northern states of India are:
- These states are less developed as most the states are dependent on agriculture.
 - These states are plagued with problems like poverty, unemployment and illiteracy.

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(iii) Two reasons for declining child sex ratio in India are:

- In India there is still preference for male child and in some areas of the country the female infanticide is still common.
- Majority of the places in India follow the patriarchal system. In India, males are considered to be the only bread earners. The methods of sex determination and female foeticide are adopted which is main reason of declining number of females especially in North India.

Question 3:

Answer the following questions in about 150 words.

- (i) Discuss the spatial patterns of female literacy in India in 2011 and bring out the reasons responsible for it.
- (ii) Which factors have caused spatial variations in the levels of Human Development among the states in India?

Answer 3:

(i) The spatial patterns of female literacy within India in 2011 are:

- In India, the overall literacy was about 74.04 percent in 2011 whereas female literacy was around 65.46 percent.
- The female literacy rate of all southern states like Kerala (91.98%), Tamil Nadu (73.86%), and Karnataka (68.13%) except Andhra Pradesh (59.74%) is higher than the national average female literacy rate (65.46%).
- The female literacy rate of most of the northern states like Bihar (53.33%), Rajasthan (52.66%), Orissa (64.36%), Chhattisgarh (60.59%), Madhya Pradesh (60.02%), Jharkhand (56.21%), Jammu and Kashmir (58.01%), and Uttar Pradesh (59.26%), etc. is lower than the national female literacy rate (65.46%).
- The female literacy rate of all union territories except Dadra and Nagar Haveli (65.93%) is higher than the national average of India (65.46%).
- The female literacy rate of all northeastern states except Arunachal Pradesh (59.57%) is higher than India's average female literacy rate (65.46%).
- The female literacy rate in the northern Indian states is lower than the female literacy rate in the southern and northeastern states.

Reasons responsible for this are:

- There is a relationship between literacy rate, population size, and level of socio-economic development.
- The northern states have a larger population than the southern and northeastern states. Hence, their literacy rate is low.
- The northern states have low socioeconomic development as compared to the southern states and most of the northeastern states and hence have low literacy rates.

(ii) India has been placed among the countries with medium human development index. It has human development index of 134. Kerala with the composite index value of 0.638 is placed at the top rank followed by Punjab (0.537), Tamil Nadu (0.531) Maharashtra (0.523) and Haryana (0.509). States

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like Bihar (0.367), Assam (0.386), Uttar Pradesh (0.388), Madhya Pradesh (0.394) and Odisha (0.404) are at the bottom among the 15 major states in India.

There are several socio-political, economic and historical reasons for such a state of affairs. Kerala is able to record the highest value in the HDI largely due to its impressive performance in achieving near hundred per cent literacy (90.92 per cent) in 2001. States like Bihar, Madhya Pradesh, Odisha, Assam and Uttar Pradesh have very low literacy. States showing higher total literacy rates have less gaps between the male and female literacy rates.

Apart from the educational attainment, the levels of economic development too play significant impacts on HDI. Economically developed states like Maharashtra, Tamil Nadu and Punjab and Haryana have higher value of HDI as compared to states like Assam, Bihar, Madhya Pradesh, etc. Regional distortions and social disparities continue to play an important role in the Indian economy, polity and society. It is found that states with wider variations in social group like Uttar Pradesh tend to have lower Human development index due to communal tensions, differential resource distribution to people of different social groups.