

The Story of Development

Short Answer Type Questions

Development



SHORT ANSWER TYPE QUESTION (3 MARKS)

Previous Years' Questions

1. Why is sustainable development essential for economic growth ? Give two reasons.

[AI 2007]

Ans. Sustainable development is important for development because it results in

- (i) protecting the people against pollution ensuring their quality of life and health.
- (ii) conserving environment which is necessary for sustainable development.
- (iii) raising the standard of living of the existing population.

2. Explain the concept of human development with an example.

[Foreign 2006]

Ans. Human development is based on the idea that education and health are integral to human well-being because only when people have the ability to read and write and the ability to lead a long and healthy life, they will be able to

make other choices which they value. Therefore human welfare should be increased through investments in education and health, e.g., every individual has a right to get basic education and basic health care. Every individual has a right to be literate and lead a healthy life.

- 3. What is meant by 'economic development' ? Write the two bases of measuring economic development of a country. [Delhi 2007, AI 06]**

Ans. Economic development means that the rate of production must be faster than the rate of increase in population. In other words, it is a process which makes people in general, better off by increasing their command over goods and services and by increasing the choices open to them.

Two bases of measuring economic development of a country are — National Income and Per Capita Income.

- 4. Identify the different thrust areas of human development. Which one of them plays the most significant role in the development? [AI 2007. 06C, Delhi 05C]**

Ans. Human development is a 'Human-centred' approach towards development. It focuses on people. It is concerned with them and their well being, their needs, choices and aspirations. Purpose of human development is to create such conditions of life as may help them to develop to their own genius and lead a purposeful and creative life that they cherish. Human development is a wider term which not only includes economic development but also includes development of one's knowledge and educational capabilities as well as one's health conditions so that one may lead a healthy and long life. Human development aims at building of different human capabilities so that one may make use of the natural resource, have sustainable development, have better personal and social security, have all opportunities not only to livelihood but also to ensure a decent standard of living.

- 5. Describe briefly four steps taken by the Indian Government for raising the status of women at par with that of men. [Foreign 2005. Delhi 05C]**

Ans. Measures taken to improve the status of women in the society :

- (i) Women are given the equal right to vote like those of men.
- (ii) The Government of India passed the Hindu Code Bill and Kamala Act due to which now girls have equal share along with their brothers in the property of their parents.
- (iii) The government of India has declared dowry as illegal and now no one can force¹ the other party to give dowry. Such persons can easily be prosecuted.
- (iv) To impart education to girls various schools and colleges have been opened.
- (v) Gender empowerment focuses on opportunities and participation in decision making process and values.

(vi) Women have been recognized as a separate target group in our developmental planning, for raising their status at par with that of men. To achieve the above objective the National Commission for women was set up in January, 1992.

(vii) Constitutional safeguards, initiatives in the areas of capacity building, employment and income generation, welfare and support services and gender sensitization have been undertaken by department of women and child development under the National Policy for Empowerment of Women, 2001.

(Any three)

6. Explain two main reasons for the need of environment friendly economic growth and two suggestions to achieve them. [Foreign 2005]

Ans. Reasons for need of environment friendly economic growth :

(i) Present production technology has polluted atmosphere and water bodies with garbage, smoke and poisonous gases.

(ii) Rapid economic growth and industrialisation have led to reckless exploitation of natural resources (like fossil fuels).

Suggestions to achieve it:

(i) Increased use of renewable and clean sources of energy, less use of fossil fuels, organic farming.

(ii) Measures to reduce global warming and global limits on carbon emission, etc.

7. How does industrial pollution degrade the environment ? Explain three measures to control environmental degradation. [AI 2005]

Ans. Industrial pollution degrades the environment in the following ways :

(i) Air is polluted by the gases.

(ii) Dust, fume, mist, spray and smoke contain particles.

(iii) Industrial effluents pollute rivers.

(iv) Paper pulp, textiles, chemicals, etc. industries pollute land and soil due to toxic materials.

Steps to control environmental degradation are :

(i) Careful planning and setting of industries.

(ii) Better equipment.

(iii) Proper fuel selection and utilisation,

(iv) Use of oil instead of coal.

(v) Treatment of industrial liquids.

(Any three)

8. What is meant by sustainable economic development ? Give its main feature. [AI 2005]

Ans. Sustainable Economic Development. It means that development should take place without damaging the environment, and development in the present should not compromise with the needs of the future generations, This concept stresses the role of the environment as capital that, if exhausted, cannot be replaced. It requires preservation of human capital, physical capital and natural capital.

United Nations Conference on Environment and Development (UNCED) defined sustainable development as 'Development that meets the need of the present generation without compromising the ability of the future generations to meet their own needs.

9. Do the following two statements mean the same? Justify your answer.

(a) People have different developmental B goals.

(b) People have conflicting developmental

Ans. Yes, the following statement implies almost the same as different persons could have different as well as conflicting developmental goals, e.g.. In Gujarat, government is in favour of Narmada project, while the people who are adversely affected by the project/dam are opposing this.

10. Besides size of per capita income, what other property of income is important in comparing two or more societies ?

Ans. Average income, i.e., per capita income is an important but not the only criterion for development. Along with average income, equitable distribution of income (i.e., people are neither very rich nor extremely poor) in a country should also be considered.

11. Find out present sources of energy used by people in India What could be possibilities fifty years from now ?

Ans. Present sources of energy used by people in India are—coal, lignite, petroleum, natural gas, LPG, electricity, etc. Fifty years from now there is a possibility that people will be making more use of non-conventional sources of energy.

12. Why do you think average income is an important criterion for development ? Explain.

Ans. It is an important criterion because it gives some idea about the rising standard of living. Prosperity of a country depends not only on the size of its national income- but also on the number of people who would share it.

13. Kerala, with lower per capita income a better human development ranking than Punjab. Hence, per capita income is not a useful criterion at all and should not be to compare states. Do you agree? Discuss.

Ans. Yes, I agree that money income or per capita income is not the only factor/ criterion behind human development or human welfare. Factors like Infant Mortality Rate, Literacy Rate and Net Attendance Ratio is also very crucial for overall human development. In these factors Kerala is a better than Punjab.

(i) Infant Mortality Rate in Kerala was 11 as compared to 49 in Punjab (in the year 2003).

(ii) Literacy rate (%) was 91 in Kerala as compared to 70 in Punjab, (in the year 2001).

(iii) Net Attendance Ratio from class I to V was 91 in Kerala as compared to 81 in Punjab (in 1995-96).

Due to these advantages, Kerala has a better human development ranking than Punjab, in spite of lower per capita income.

14. "The Earth has enough resources to meet the needs of all but not enough to satisfy the greed of even one person". How is this statement relevant to the discussion of development ? Discuss.

Ans. This statement implies that human beings are overusing the natural resources of the earth in the name of development and industrial revolution. Earth provides enough resources to meet the needs of all but today's man has become so greedy that he, for his progress and development, resorts to activities like deforestation, unsustainable fuel wood and fodder extraction, shifting cultivation, encroachment into forest lands, forest fires, indiscriminate use of agro-chemicals, extraction of groundwater in excess of recharge capacity, etc.

15. For each of the items give in Table, find out which country is at the top and which is at the bottom.

Ans.

TABLE : SOME DATA REGARDING INDIA AND ITS NEIGHBOURS FOR 2004					
Country	Per Capita Income in US\$	Life expectancy at birth	Literacy rate for 15+ yrs population	Gross enrolment ratio for three levels	HDI rank in the world
Sri Lanka	4390	74	91	69	93
India	3139	64	61	60	126
Myanmar	1027	61	90	48	130
Pakistan	2225	63	50	35	134
Nepal	1490	62	50	61	138
Bangladesh	1870	63	41	53	137

16. Following points are worth noting from the following table relating to India and its neighbors for 2004.

- Ans.**
- (i) Sri Lanka has the highest per capita income and Myanmar has the lowest one.
 - (ii) Sri Lanka has highest life expectancy at birth and Myanmar the lowest.
 - (iii) Literacy rate is highest for Sri Lanka and lowest for Bangladesh.
 - (iv) Gross enrolment ratio is highest for Sri Lanka and Lowest for Pakistan.
 - (v) Overall, HDI rank is minimum in case of Sri Lanka and highest for Nepal.

17. What is the main criterion used by the World Bank in classifying different countries ? What are the limitation of this criterion, if any ?

Ans. World Bank follows the following criterion to categories rich countries and low-income countries.

Rich Countries. Countries which had per capita income of \$10,066 per annum and above in 2004 (According to Word Development Report 2006).

Low-income countries. Countries which have per capita income of \$825 or less in 2004 (According to WDR 2006).

Limitation of this criterion is that average income or per capita income is not the only factor important for development, This factor hides the other important factor—'Distribution of Income' which also affects development. Higher average income along with equitable distribution of income is considered favorable for development.

17. In What respects in the criterion used by the UNDP for measuring development different from the one used by the World Bank ?

Ans. Criterion by UNDP for measuring development : It calculates human Development index which is the simple average of three indices Longevity Knowledge/Educational attainment and per capita real GDP. Different countries are rated between 0 to 1.

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18. Why do different persons have different notions of development ? Which of the following explanation is more important and why ?

- (a) **because people are different.**
- (b) **because life situation of people are different.**

Ans. Different persons have different notions of development because life situations of persons are different. Development goals of a girl from all rich urban family will be surely different from a farmer in Rajasthan. It is because their situations, lifestyle and status are very different from each other. A goal which a person has entirely depends on present life situations. Over the period of time if those situations change B automatically goals of a person will also change.

1. Is it correct to say that environmental degradation is not just a national issue ? Illustrate with examples.

Ans. Yes, it is correct to say that environmental degradation is not just a national issue. Sustainable development emphasizes the development that will allow all future generations to have a potential average quality of life that is at least as high as that which is being enjoyed by the current generation. Following examples/cases show the situations which can prove disastrous for future generations.

- (i) In many parts of the country, groundwater is overused leading to water level decline of some metres during last decade.
- (ii) Crude oil which is extracted from the earth is a non-renewable resource and be exhausted over time.

19. How is BMI Calculated ?

Ans. Body Mass index (BMI) :

Step 1: Weight of person in kg and height in metres is taken.

Step 2: Divide the weight by the square of the height.

$$BMI = \frac{Weight}{(Height)^2}$$

Step 3: If BMI < 18.5, then person is undernourished.

If BMI > 25, then person is overweight.

(Note; This criterion is not applicable to growing children)

21. On what bases WDR has categorized rich countries and low income countries.

Or

‘While average income is useful for comparison but it may hide disparities’. Discuss.

Ans. Refer to Ans. 16 (3 Marks).