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TRANSPORT

- Transport is a system in which passengers and goods are carried from one place to another. Transport system is considered as the lifeline of a country.
- Earlier man travelled on foot or used animals for transport. With the discovery of wheel, transport was made easier and gradually different means of transport were developed.
- There are three major means of transport in the world.
 - ❁ Land - Road ways ,Railways, Pipelines
 - ❁ Water -Inland ,waterways ,Ocean routes
 - ❁ Air - Domestic, airways, International, Airways

Transport Network in India

- Transport is one of the most important components of infrastructure and it is essential for economic development of a country, especially for a large country like India.
- India has a good transport network of roads, railways, airways and waterways providing necessary connectivity between different parts of the country.

Roadways

- Roads play an important role in carrying goods and passengers for short, medium and long distances. It is highly suitable for short distance services.
- It is comparatively easy and cheap to construct and maintain roads. Road transport system can establish easy contact between farms, fields, factories and markets and can provide door to door transport services.
- Roads are the most universal mode of transport. Indian roads are cost efficient.
- It is used by all sections of people in the society.

- **Expressways**

- These are multi-lane good quality highways for high speed traffic. Some of the important expressways are;
 - (i) Mumbai-Pune Road
 - (ii) Kolkata-Dumdum Airport road
 - (iii) Durgapur-Kolkata road

- (iv) Yamuna expressway between Delhi and Agra.

Railways

- Indian railway system is the main artery of the country's inland transport. Railways cater to the needs of large scale movement of traffic, both for freight and passenger, thereby contributing to economic growth.
- Railways are considered as the backbone of the surface transport system of India. It promotes national integration by bringing people together.
- It also promotes trade, tourism, education etc. Railways help in the commercialization of the agriculture sector by facilitating the quick movement of perishable goods.

Waterways

- A waterway is an important mode of transport for both passenger and cargo traffic in India. It is the oldest and also the cheapest means of transport and most suitable for carrying heavy and bulky materials from one country to another.
- It is a fuel-efficient and eco-friendly mode of transport. The water transport is of two types- Inland Waterways and Ocean water ways (sea routes).

Air Transport

- Airways are the quickest, costliest, most modern and comfortable means of transport, Air transport facilitates connectivity on a national, regional and international scale.
- It has made accessibility easier by connecting difficult terrains like high mountains and sandy deserts. It carries passengers, freight and mail.
- Air transport plays a key role in times of emergency as well as in the event of natural and man-made calamities like floods, epidemics and wars.
- Presently, there are 19 designated international airports available in the country.
- These airports are managed by Airports Authority of India.