

INDUSTRIES OF WEST BENGAL

Multiple Choice Questions

1) The first cotton mill was set up in - 1913/1812/1800/1850
Ans- 1818

2) The complementary port to Kolkata port is - Durgapur/
Haldia/Siliguri/Katdwip
Ans- Haldia

3) The important hub of Eastern India is - Saltlake/
Haldia/Bolpur/Bishnupur
Ans- Saltlake

4) The first jute mill of India was set up at - Pichua/
Jalpaiguri/Katdwip/Sutanpur
Ans- Pichua

5) Fishing port of West Bengal is - Kolkata/Haldia/
Diamond Harbour/Durgapur
Ans- Diamond Harbour

6) Cotton mill is situated in - Saltia/Kalyani/Haora/All of these
Ans- All of these

Answer in one or two words

1) Name the only silver port of India.

Ans- Kolkata port

2) Which place is known as Ruhr of India.

Ans- Durgapur

3) Howickela is famous for which industry?

Ans- Steel Industry

4) In which region tea is mostly cultivated in West Bengal?

Ans- Northern Mountainous region

5) Name two tourist spots famous for seaside.

Ans- Digha, Shikaripur

Answer in brief

1) What is industry?

Ans- The secondary economic activity in which raw materials from different sources (agriculture, mining) are transformed into the usable items or products with the help of advanced technology, human labour, machinery etc. are known as industry.

2) Define food processing industries including the centres.

Ans- Food processing is the transformation of raw materials of various sectors like agriculture, pisciculture, horticulture as well as animal husbandry into food or other forms.

their hygienic and other properties as it is canning, freezing and freezing of food and vegetable, meat etc.

Important food processing centres are Haldia, Baharampur, Siliguri, Raiganj, Haldia, Sultanpur, Santarpur etc.

3) State the advantages of small scale cottage industry.

Ans- The advantages of small scale cottage industry are:

- (a) less investment of capital
- (b) Involvement of few capital
- (c) carried out at home apart from other livelihood.
- (d) it is not much skill oriented.

4) Define harbour.

Ans- The place behind the port where the ship take shelter for few days for the purpose of loading, unloading, steaming works etc. is called harbour.

5) Define urbanisation and cash crop.

Ans- The process by which cities grow is called urbanisation.

An agricultural crop which is grown for sale to earn money is called cash crop.

Answer in detail :

1) Discuss the factors responsible for the development of jute industry in West Bengal.

Ans- Jute mills are located along the two banks of the river Hugli between Kalyani-Bansberia in the north to Bajaj Uluberia in South. The factors responsible for the development of jute industry are :

(a) Availability of raw materials : Ganga Delta region nearly cultivates 80% of raw jute. So jute is sent from the districts of Nadia, North and South 24 Parganas and Murshidabad.

(b) Supply of water : Ample amount of water is received by jute industries from Bhagirathi-Hugli river.

(c) Supply of electricity : Thermal Power Plants of Bandel, Kolaghat, Santaldih supply huge amount of electricity to these industries.

(d) Port facility : The high quality of jute is exported through Kolkata port to other ports of the world. Along with this machineries and raw jute is imported.

(e) Transport facility : The good network of roadways and railways with jute industry makes transportation easy and cheaper. National Highways No. 2 and 22 connect the metropolitan cities with the jute producing centres. The

Eastern and South-Eastern Railway headquarters provide the best connection throughout the country.

(f) Labour Supply: The densely populated state of West Bengal and other neighbouring states provide skilled and cheap labour for jute industry.

(g) Capital Investment: Huge capital is required for the development and maintenance of jute industry. Industrialists and state government invest and set up jute mills.

(h) Demand and Market: Huge demand of jute goods is there in national and international market which gives profit for jute industry. Hence jute products has a good market in country and abroad.

2) Discuss the factors responsible for the development of cotton-textile industry in West Bengal.

Ans- Raw cotton is imported from Western and Southern India. Important centres of cotton mills are Sodepur, Rishra, Haora, Kalyani, Uluberia etc. The factors responsible for the development of these industry are as follows:

(a) Availability of raw cotton: Raw cotton is brought from Western and Southern India. It is mainly imported from the state of Maharashtra and Gujarat.

(b) Climate: Humid type of climate helps in sewing and stretching.

(c) Port facility: The best quality cotton of West Bengal

exported through Kolkata port to other parts of the world. Along with the machineries and raw cotton is also imported.

- (d) **Transport facility**: The good network of railways and roadways connect the cotton industries to other parts of the world, hence makes the transportation easy. National Highways No. 2 and 22 connect the metropolitan cities to cotton industries. The Eastern and South Eastern Railway headquarters provide the best connection.
- (e) **Supply of electricity**: Thermal power plants of Bardel, Kolaghat and Santalchik provide the best power supply to the cotton industries.
- (f) **Labour Supply**: The densely populated state of West Bengal and other neighbouring states provide skilled and cheap labour for cotton industry.
- (g) **Capital Investment**: Huge capital is required for the management, development and continuation of these industries. Big business groups and even state government plays a vital role in the investment of these cotton mills.
- (h) **Demand and Market**: Huge demand is there for cotton products in national and international market. Hence, cotton products have a good market within country and abroad.

3) Describe the factors responsible for the development of Iron and Steel plant in West Bengal.

Ans- There are two iron-steel plants in West Bengal - Durgapur and Burnpur-Kulti. Iron and steel industry is one of the important metallurgical industry. The factors responsible for development of these industries are:

- (a) Availability of raw materials: Major raw materials are iron-ore and coal. Iron-ore is available from Singhbhum district of Jharkhand and coal is obtained from Raniganj and some other places. Moreover manganese, limestone are obtained from Bangur in Orissa.
- (b) Supply of water: Plenty amount of water is available from river Damodar.
- (c) Supply of electricity: Huge amount of electricity for the steel plant of Durgapur is available from the adjacent Durgapur power station. Moreover, Damodar Valley Corporation also supply hydroelectricity.
- (d) Port facility: The high quality steel produced in Durgapur Steel Plant are exported through Kolkata and Haldia port to other parts of the world. The machineries and also the raw materials are imported through these ports.
- (e) Transport facility: There is a good network of roadways and railways in Durgapur and Burnpur-Kulti which provide connection with other parts of the country. National Highways No. 2 and 22 connect these cities with other metropolitan cities. The Eastern Railway and

Eastern Railway headquarters in Sealdah and Howrah provide good connection throughout the country.

- (8) Labour Supply - The dense population of West Bengal and its neighbouring states provide skilled and cheap labour for the Iron and Steel Plant.
- (9) Capital Investment - Huge capital is required by the Iron and Steel plant which is provided by the business group and state government.
- (10) Demand and Market - There is a huge demand of steel products in the country and abroad. Thus Durgapur Steel Plant have a good market for the steel goods in different parts of the country.

4) Discuss the factors responsible for the development of tea industry in West Bengal.

Ans - Tea industry is one of the agro based industry in West Bengal. It is mainly cultivated in north mountainous region and in the plains of terai-duaris region. The factors responsible for the development of tea industry are as follows:

- (a) Availability of raw materials: Tea industries are developed close to tea gardens, so it's flavour and taste can be retained as much as possible. So tea leaves are mainly sent from Darjeeling, Jalpaiguri including some other districts. Hence it is cheaper and easier to get raw materials or tea leaves.

- (2) Labour Supply: The densely populated state of West Bengal and its neighbouring states provide skilled and cheap labour. Mostly women and skilled labour are engaged.
- (3) Post facility: Kolkata post provides the way for transporting tea products through customs as it is the largest exporter of tea.
- (4) Transport facility: The good network of roads and railways in West Bengal connect the tea factories in and out the country. National Highways No. 2 and 22 connect the other metropolitan cities to tea processing centres. The Eastern and South Eastern Railway headquarters connect these centres to rest of the country, hence supporting the efficient transportation of tea.
- (5) Capital Investment: Tea is a plantation crop. Huge capital investment is necessary which is fulfilled by big business groups and state government.
- (6) Power Supply: The state's largest power plant provides the adequate electricity.
- (7) Demand and Market: The tea products have a great demand as it plays a vital role in the livelihood of people. Manufacturing of packing boxes are easily available as forest of Teesai-Dooar provide necessary wood. As a whole it shares a good position in market.