1. **State the merits of roadways.**

The growing importance of road transport is rooted in the following reasons:

1. The construction cost of roadways is much lower than that of the railways.
2. Its maintenance is also cheap and easy.
3. Roads can be built in mountainous areas. E.g. Himalayas
4. Road transport is economical in the transportation of a few persons and a relatively smaller amount of goods over short distances.
5. It provides door-to-door service, which results in a lower cost of loading and unloading.
6. It is used as a feeder to other modes of transport such as they provide a link between railway stations, air, and seaports.
7. Road transport connects fields with markets and factories.
8. Road transport is useful for the transport of perishable commodities.
9. **Briefly explain the classification of Indian roads**

In India, roads are classified in the following six classes according to their capacity.

* + 1. Golden Quadrilateral Super Highways which connect four Indian metros and other important cities
    2. National Highways which connects different states
    3. State Highways which are the major roads of a state
    4. District Roads which are the district level roads
    5. Other Roads which are the small roads in rural areas
    6. Border Roads which run along the Indian borders with neighbouring countries

Roads can also be classified on the basis of the type of material used for their construction such as metalled and unmetalled roads. Metalled roads may be made of cement, concrete or even bitumen of coal, therefore these are all weather roads. Unmetalled roads go out of use in the rainy season.

1. **Write a brief note on Golden Quadrilateral Super Highways**

The *Golden Quadrilateral Super Highways*, popularly known as **GQ**, is anational network of roads that connectsthe 4 major metro cities of India, Delhi, Mumbai, Chennai and Kolkata in six-lane. It is a project of *National Highways Authority of India* (**NHAI**) under the Ministry of Road, Highways and Transport, Govt. of India. The North-South corridors linking Srinagar (*Jammu & Kashmir*) and Kanyakumari (*Tamil Nadu*), and East-West Corridor connecting Silcher (*Assam*) and Porbander (*Gujarat*) are part of this project.

1. **What are the problems faced by the road transportation in India?**

Road transportation in India faces a number of problems. Keeping in view the volume of traffic and passengers, the road network is inadequate. About half of the roads are unmetalled and this limits their usage during the rainy season. The National Highways are inadequate too. Moreover, the roadways are highly congested in cities and most of the bridges and culverts are old and narrow. However, in recent years, the road transportation system in the country has been improved a lt.

1. **Explain the role of Border Roads Organization**

Border Roads Organisation a Government of India undertaking that constructs and maintains roads in the bordering areas of the country. This organisation was established in 1960 for the development of the roads of strategic importance in the northern and north-eastern border areas. These roads have improved accessibility in areas of difficult terrain and have helped in the economic development of these areas.

1. **Where and why is rail transport the most convenient means of transportation?**

Rail transport is the most convenient means of transportation in the northern plains of India. This is due to the following reasons.

* 1. The northern plains have a vast level of land
  2. It has high population density
  3. The northern plains are enriched with agricultural resources

However, it is worth noting that large number of rivers requiring construction of bridges across their wide beds posed some obstacles.

1. **What is the significance of the border roads?**

Border roads are of strategic importance and these roads in the bordering areas of the country have improved accessibility in areas of difficult terrain and have helped in the economic development of these areas.

**OR**

* The Border Roads are vital road link along the frontiers of our country.
* These roads are of strategic importance.
* These roads have improved accessibility in areas of difficult terrain mainly in the northern and north-eastern border areas.
* They play a major role in the economic development of these areas.
* These roads are constructed and maintained by the Border Roads Organisation a government of India undertaking which was established in 1960

1. **What is meant by trade? What is the difference between international and local trade?**

The exchange of goods among people, states, and countries are referred to as trade. Trade between countries is called international trade. Local trade is carried out within cities, towns and villages of a country.

1. **Where and why is rail transport the most convenient means of transportation?**

* Railways can transport a larger number of goods and passengers over long distances at an economical cost. Hence, railways are the most convenient means of transport in the vast northern plains of India.
* The flat terrain, dense population, rich agricultural resources, and greater industrial activity have favoured the development of railways in this region.
* The northern plains, therefore, have the densest railway network.
* Railways have accelerated the development of industry and agriculture in this region by providing quick availability of raw materials and distributing the finished products to the markets.
* However, in spite of the fact that railways is the most convenient means of transportation in northern plains, a large number of rivers requiring construction of bridges across their wide beds posed some obstacles

1. **Why are the means of transportation and communication called the lifelines of a nation and its economy?**

The means of transportation and communication are called the lifelines of a nation and its economy because they are the pre-requisites for fast development. Today, India is well-linked with the rest of the world despite its vast size, diversity, and linguistic and socio-cultural plurality. Railways, airways, waterways, newspapers, radio, cinema, television and internet etc. have been contributing to its socio-economic progress in many ways. Along with trade, these different means of transport and communication have enriched our life and added substantially to growing amenities and facilities for the comforts of life.

Exchange of information and knowledge through modern means of communication has made people more aware. They exchange goods and commodities at a much faster pace for example: online delivery service.

1. **What is meant by trade? What is the difference between international and local trade?**

The exchange of goods among people, states, and countries is known as trade. The difference between international and local trade is as given in the table below.

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Sl.No | Local | International |
| 1 | Local trade is carried within cities,   towns  or villages. Exchange of items takes place in local markets where items of local needs are catered to | The exchange of commodities between two or more countries is termed as international trade. |
| 2 | Local trade mainly takes place through roads, railways, or inland waterways | It may take place through sea, air or land routes |
| 3 | Sale and purchase are the components of local trade | Export and import are the components of international trade |
| 4 | Advancement of local trade is a sign of   economic prosperity of the local people | Advancement of international trade of a country is an index to its economic prosperity. It is, therefore, considered the economic barometer for a country |
| 5 | It does not earn foreign exchange but helps in the fulfilment of the needs of the people | The international trade leads to the earning of foreign exchange and benefits for the traders and exporters in the country |

1. **Write a note on the changing nature of international trade in the last fifteen years.**

Trade between countries is known as international trade. International trade has undergone a vast change in the last fifteen years, mainly due to the impact of globalization. Earlier two countries were reaching an agreement (bilateral agreement) to conduct trade by selling and buying goods between them. Today, producers in one country can sell their products in almost all other countries in the world based on a global agreement. The countries can also buy goods in the same way as other countries.

The exchange of commodities and goods has been superseded by the exchange of information and knowledge. India has emerged as a software giant at the international level. It is earning large foreign exchange through the export of information technology because of its fast-growing Business Process Outsourcing (BPO) sector.