

02. People as Resource

Q1: What do you understand by 'people as a resource'?

Answer:

'People as a resource' is a term used to describe the working population of a country in terms of their existing productive skills and abilities. It views the population as an asset, not a liability, when they contribute to the economy through education, training, and health.

Q2: How is human resource different from other resources like land and physical capital?

Answer:

Human resource is different from land and physical capital in the following ways:

Basis	Human Resource	Land/Physical Capital
1. Nature	Active resource	Passive resource
2. Productivity	Can increase productivity of other resources	Cannot function on their own
3. Role	Organizes production	Used in production
4. Investment	Requires education and health	Requires money and infrastructure

Humans use knowledge and skills to make other resources productive.

Q3: What is the role of education in human capital formation?

Answer:

Education plays a crucial role in human capital formation by:

- Enhancing individual productivity and efficiency
- Improving job opportunities and income levels
- Contributing to national economic growth
- Reducing inequalities in society
- Encouraging innovation and development

Investing in education improves both individual and national development.

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Q4: What is the role of health in human capital formation?

Answer:

Health is vital for human capital formation because:

- A healthy person can work more efficiently and with greater stamina
- Healthier people take fewer days off due to illness
- It reduces the cost of medical treatment and enhances productivity
- Better health improves life expectancy and quality of life

So, a healthy population is an asset for the economy.

Q5: What part does health play in the individual's working life?

Answer:

Health plays a major role in an individual's working life by:

- Increasing the ability to work efficiently and for longer hours
- Reducing absenteeism due to sickness
- Enhancing concentration and mental sharpness
- Leading to better performance and earnings

In short, good health improves both quantity and quality of work.

Q6: What are the various activities undertaken in the primary sector, secondary sector and tertiary sector?

Answer:

Primary - Agriculture, fishing, forestry, mining, animal husbandry

Secondary - Manufacturing, construction, processing industries

Tertiary - Services like transport, banking, education, healthcare, communication

These activities contribute differently to the economy.

Q7: What is the difference between economic activities and non-economic activities?

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Answer:

Economic Activities	Non-Economic Activities
[i] Activities that earn income are economic activities	[i] Activities done for self or family without pay are non-economic activities
[ii] It adds to national income	[ii] Not included in national income
[iii] It contributes to GDP	[iii] Does not contribute to GDP
[iv] Example- Farming, teaching, selling goods	[iv] Example- Cooking, cleaning own house, taking care of family

Q8: Why are women employed in low paid work?

Answer:

Women are employed in low paid work due to:

- Lack of education and skill training
- Social norms and gender bias
- Limited access to better opportunities
- Preference for hiring men for higher positions
- Wage discrimination in the job market

As a result, women often work in informal or unorganized sectors with low income.

Q9: How will you explain the term unemployment?

Answer:

Unemployment is a situation where people who are willing and able to work at the prevailing wage rate cannot find jobs. It indicates underutilization of human resources and leads to economic and social problems.

Q10: What is the difference between disguised unemployment and seasonal unemployment?

Answer:

Disguised Unemployment	Seasonal Unemployment
[i] More people are employed than needed	[i] People work only during a specific season

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[ii] It is seen in agriculture, rural areas	[ii] It is seen in agriculture, tourism, sugar industry
[iii] It is Hidden and not visible easily	[iii] It is Visible and easy to observe
[iv] Example- 5 people doing the work of 3	[iv] Example- Farmers unemployed in off-season

Both types lower productivity and income levels.

Q11: Why is educated unemployed a peculiar problem in India?

Answer:

Educated unemployment is a peculiar problem in India because:

- Even people with degrees can't find suitable jobs
- There is a gap between education and job market needs
- Oversupply of graduates in arts and humanities
- Lack of skill-based and vocational training
- Poor job creation in the formal sector

It leads to frustration among youth and waste of talent.

Q12: In which field do you think India can build the maximum employment opportunity? And how?

Answer:

India can build maximum employment in the **service sector**, especially in:

- Education
- Healthcare
- IT and digital services
- Tourism
- Retail and e-commerce

This can be done through:

- Better skill training programs
- Promoting startups and MSMEs
- Digital infrastructure development

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- Encouraging foreign investment
 - Government schemes for entrepreneurship
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Q13: Can you suggest some measures in the education system to mitigate the problem of the educated unemployed?

Answer:

Yes, measures include:

- Introduce vocational and skill-based education
- Encourage entrepreneurship education
- Link education with industry demands
- Focus on practical training and internships
- Promote digital learning and coding skills
- Upgrade school and college infrastructure
- Career guidance and counselling programs

These steps can make youth more employable.

Q14: Can you imagine some village which initially had no job opportunities but later came up with many?

Answer:

Yes, for example, **Ralegan Siddhi** in Maharashtra.

- It was a drought-prone village with poverty and no employment
- After water conservation and development programs, agriculture flourished
- Villagers got jobs in farming, dairy, biogas, and solar projects
- Government support and community efforts turned the village into a model of self-reliance

This shows how rural employment can be boosted with the right steps.

Q15. Is it true that educated parents invest more heavily on their children's education and why?

Yes, educated parents are more aware of the importance of schooling and skills. They

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realize that education improves job opportunities, income, and quality of life. Hence, they are willing to spend more on fees, books, coaching, and better schools for their children's future success.

Q16. Is large population considered a liability rather than an asset?

Yes, when people are uneducated, unskilled, and unhealthy, they cannot contribute productively to the economy. Instead, they increase poverty, unemployment, and dependence on resources. But if educated and skilled, a large population becomes human capital, turning into an asset for economic growth and development.

Q17. How do educated women earn at par with their male counterparts?

Education gives women knowledge, confidence, and employable skills. They can take up jobs in offices, schools, hospitals, industries, and even leadership roles. With proper qualifications, women perform equally well as men, get promoted, and earn better salaries, reducing the wage gap and ensuring gender equality in workplaces.

Q18. "Japan has scarcity of natural resources yet it is a developed and rich country." Describe briefly three steps that helped Japan to become a developed country.

Japan achieved development by focusing on:

1. Human resource development through education and training.
2. Adopting modern technology and innovations in industries.
3. Discipline, efficiency, and hard work among its people.

Thus, despite scarce natural resources, Japan converted skilled manpower into the backbone of its economic prosperity.

Q19. "Illiterate and unhealthy population are a liability for the economy." Justify the statement with suitable examples.

OR

Q20. On what factors does the quality of population depend on?

The factors on which the quality of population depends are:

- Education – makes people skilled and aware.

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- Health – ensures efficiency and productivity.
- Training/Skills – improves employability.

A literate, skilled, and healthy population becomes human capital and drives national development.

Q21. "Unemployment has a detrimental impact on the overall growth of an economy." Justify the statement.

Unemployment leads to wastage of human resources, lower productivity, and poverty. Idle youth create dependency and reduce economic progress. For example, in India, disguised unemployment in agriculture shows how people remain underutilized. A high unemployment rate slows growth, increases inequality, and weakens the economy's overall development.

Q22. Classify various activities on the basis of its economic benefits.

Economic activities can be classified into:

1. Primary activities – agriculture, fishing, mining, forestry.
 2. Secondary activities – manufacturing and industrial production.
 3. Tertiary activities – trade, transport, banking, education, and health services.
- Together, these sectors provide employment, generate income, and contribute to national growth and economic progress.
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Q23. How can you prove statistically that the unemployment rate is low in India?

The unemployment rate in India appears low because it is measured in terms of those actively seeking work. In rural areas, many are engaged in disguised unemployment, especially in agriculture, where more people work than required. Though statistically employed, they are underutilized. Similarly, seasonal unemployment is hidden in farming. Thus, the official unemployment figures look low, but in reality, underemployment and disguised unemployment are widespread in India.

Q24. In which field do you think India can build maximum employment opportunity?

India can build maximum employment in agriculture and allied activities like dairying, fisheries, and forestry by modernizing them. Also, small-scale industries and service

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sectors like education, health, and IT can provide large-scale job opportunities, especially for the rural population.

Q25. Can you suggest some measures in the education to mitigate the problem of the educated unemployment?

- Provide vocational training with practical skills.
 - Start skill development programs for industries.
 - Revise curriculum to match job market needs.
 - Encourage entrepreneurship and self-employment.
- This will reduce educated youth depending only on government jobs and make them employable.
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Q26. What do you mean by Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan?

Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan (SSA) is a government programme launched in 2001 to provide free and compulsory elementary education to all children aged 6–14 years. It aimed to reduce illiteracy, improve enrolment in schools, and ensure equal opportunities for every child.

Q27. What does seasonal unemployment mean?

Seasonal unemployment occurs when people are employed only during certain seasons. For example, farm labourers get work during sowing and harvesting but remain jobless in the lean season. This is common in agriculture-dependent rural areas of India.

Q28. What is disguised unemployment?

Disguised unemployment exists when more people are working than actually needed. For example, in agriculture, if 5 members work on land where 3 are sufficient, the extra 2 have no contribution to output. They are “disguisedly” unemployed.

Q29. Describe the different kinds of unemployment found in India.

India faces different types of unemployment:

- Disguised unemployment in agriculture, where extra workers are not needed.

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- Seasonal unemployment, when farm labourers are jobless in non-harvest seasons.
 - Educated unemployment, where degree holders fail to find suitable jobs.
- These forms of unemployment reduce productivity and highlight underutilization of human resources, especially in rural and semi-urban areas.

Sources: Gink AI – The new and only our AI: Gamer Inc. AI

Notes provided on the basis of NCERT curriculum.