



Question 12. The following table shows the population and worker population ratio for India in 1999-2000. Can you estimate the workforce (urban and total) for India?

Region	Estimation of Population (in crores)	Workers Population	Estimated Workers (in crores)
Rural	71.88	41.99	$(71.88/100) \times 41.9 = 30.12$
Urban	28.52	33.7	?
Total	100.40	39.5	?

Answer. Estimated number of workers (in crores) for urban = $\frac{28.52}{100} \times 33.7 = 9.61$ crores
Total workforce = $30.12 + 9.61 = 39.73$ crores

Question 13. Why are regular salaried employees more in urban areas than in rural areas?

Answer. In urban areas, a considerable section is able to study in various educational institutions. Urban people have a variety of employment opportunities. They are able to look for an appropriate job to suit their qualifications and skills. But in rural areas, people cannot stay at home as they are economically poor.

Question 14. Why are less women found in regular salaried employment?

Answer. Female workers give preference to self-employment than to hired employment. It is because women, both in rural and urban areas, are less mobile and thus, prefer to engage themselves in self-employment.

Question 15. Analyse the recent trends in sectoral distribution of workforce in India.

Answer. I. The data in occupational structure is as follows (for the year 1999-2000):

(a) Industry wise the distribution is:

- (i) 37.1% of workforce is engaged in primary sector.
- (ii) 18.7% of workforce is engaged in secondary sector.
- (iii) 44.2% of workforce is engaged in tertiary sector.

(b) Area wise the data is:

(i) In rural areas:

- 77% of workforce is in primary sector.
- 11% of workforce is in secondary sector.
- 12% of workforce is in tertiary sector.

(ii) In urban areas:

- 10% of workforce is in primary sector.
- 31% of workforce is in secondary sector.
- 59% of workforce is in tertiary sector.

2. The data reveals that:

- (a) Economic backwardness in the country as 60% of workforce is engaged in agricultural activities. A large proportion of population depend on agriculture for their livelihood.
- (b) In urban area, tertiary sector account for 59% of workforce. It shows development and growth in the tertiary sector and the fact that this sector is able to generate sustainable employment and provide livelihood to 59% of the workforce.
3. It can be concluded that in the urban areas, tertiary sector is the main source of livelihood for majority of workforce.

Question 16. Compared to the 1970s, 'there has hardly been any change in the distribution of workforce across various industries. Comment.

Answer. It is true that no much change is observed in the distribution of workforce across various industries. It is because the plans did not emphasise the need for development of:

- (a) non-agricultural rural employment industries.
- (b) small scale, village and cottage industries.

Question 17. Do you think that in the last 50 years, employment generated in the country is commensurate with the growth of GDP in India? How?

Answer. Jobless growth is defined as a situation in which there is an overall acceleration in the growth rate of GDP in the economy which is not accompanied by a commensurate expansion in employment opportunities. This means that in an economy, without generating additional employment we have been able to produce more goods and services. Since the starting of economic reforms in 1991, our economy is experiencing a gap between GDP growth rate and employment growth rate that is, jobless growth.

Question 18. Is it necessary to generate employment in the formal sector rather than in the informal sector? Why?

Answer. With economic reforms in 1991, there has been significant rise in informalisation of workers. Since informal workers face uncertainties of making of living, it is surprising that such a high percentage of total workforce prefer to be employed in the informal sector. All necessary steps should be taken to generate employment in the formal sector, which is only 7% at present.

Question 19. Victor is able to get work only for two hours in a day. Rest of the day, he is looking for work. Is he unemployed? Why? What kind of jobs could persons like Victor be doing?

Answer. No, he is employed because Victor has work for 2 hours daily for which he gets paid. He is a casual worker.

Question 20. You are residing in a village. If you are asked to advice the village panchayat, what kinds of activities would you suggest for the improvement of your village which would also generate employment.

Answer. Digging of wells, fencing, building roads and houses, etc.

Question 21. Who is a casual wage labourer?

Answer. Those people who are not hired by their employers on a regular/permanent basis and do not get social security benefits are said to be casual workers. Example: construction workers.

Question 22. How will you know whether a worker is working in the informal sector?

Answer. Informal Sector:

- (a) It is an unorganised sector of an economy which includes all those private sector enterprises which employ less than 10 workers. Example: agriculture labourers, farmers, owners of small enterprises, etc.
- (b) The workers of this sector are called informal workers.
- (c) The workers are not entitled to social security benefits.

(d) The workers cannot form trade union and are not protected by labour laws.

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