

Economics-lesson no-1

Development

1. What is development? What are the two aspects of development?

Development is such a situation that can fulfill the aspirations or desires of people. It is the progress or improvement in the lifestyle of the people. The two aspects of development are-

1. Different persons can have different developmental goals.
2. What may be development for one, may not be development for the other.

3. "Conflicting goals can be developmental goals". Elaborate.

1. At times, two persons or group of persons may seek things which are conflicting.
2. To get more electricity, industrialists may want more dams. But this may submerge the land and disrupt the lives of people, who are displaced such as tribals.

3. "Average income is an important criterion for development". Justify.

1. For comparing countries, their income is considered to be one of the most important attributes.
2. Countries with higher income are more developed than others with less income.
3. This is based on the understanding that more income means more of all the things that human beings need. Whatever people like and should have, they will be able to get with greater income. So, greater income itself is considered to be one important goal.

4. "The earth has enough resources to meet the needs of all but not enough to satisfy the greed of even one person." How is this statement relevant to the discussion of development? Discuss.

According to the statement, the natural resources are overused in the name of development. Earth provides enough resources to meet the needs of all but today's generation has become so greedy that for their own progress and development they resort to activities like deforestation, shifting cultivation, fodder extraction, encroachment into forest lands, indiscriminate use of agro-chemicals, extraction of ground water in excess of recharge capacity etc.

5. What is the criterion used by UNDP for classifying countries?

UNDP has used the criterion of HDI to measure the development of countries. HDI is calculated on the basis of:

1. Per capita Income- When the total national income is divided by its population, we get per capita income.
2. Life expectancy- It measures the average age of a person in a country. It helps us to know the health facilities of the country.
3. Literacy Rate- Education is also one of the most important criteria for the development of the country.
4. Gross Enrolment ratio- It means the education gained at three levels- at the primary, secondary and higher education level.