NCERT Textbook Questions with Answers

Q.1. Development of a country can generally be determined by (ii) its average literacy level

- (i) its per capita income
- (iii) health status of its people
- Ans. (iv) all the above

Q.2. Which of the following neighbouring countries has better performance in terms of human development than India ?

- (i) Bangladesh
- (iii) Nepal

(ii) Sri Lanka (iv) Pakistan

(iv) all the above

Ans. (ii) Sri Lanka

Q.3. Assume there are four families in a country. The average per capita income of these families is \gtrless 5,000. If the income of three families is \gtrless 4,000, ₹ 7,000 and ₹ 3,000 respectively, what is the income of the fourth family? (ii) ₹ 3,000

- (i) ₹ 7.500 (iv) ₹ 6,000 (*iii*) ₹ 2,000
- **Ans**. (*iv*) ₹ 6,000

(HINT : Per capita income = $\frac{\text{Total income of a country}}{\text{It's population}}$)

Q.4. What is the main criterion used by the World Bank in classifying different countries ? What are the limitations of this criterion, if any ?

Or

Explain any three criteria used by Human Development Report to classify various countries. [CBSE 2015]

- Ans. (i) In World Development Reports, brought out by the World Bank, this criterion is used in classifying countries. Countries with per capita income of US\$ 12,056 per annum and above in 2017, are called rich countries and those with per capita income of US\$ 955 or less are called low-income countries. India comes in the category of low middle income countries because its per capita income in 2017 was just US\$ 1820 per annum.
 - (ii) Limitations :
 - (a) It considers economic aspect only, neglecting other factors like peace, health, environment, education, etc.
 - (b) The method does not give any information about the distribution of income. That is, it hides disparities.

Q.5. In what respects is the criterion used by the UNDP for measuring development different from the one used by the World Bank ?

[CBSE 2011, 2015]

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Ans. (i) The World Bank has compared the different countries only on the basis of the income criterion, whereas the UNDP has taken three aspects, *i.e.*, education, health status and per capita income.

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 - (ii) The base of the World Bank comparison is very narrow, i.e., only economic, whereas, UNDP has taken a broader view.

Q.6. Why do we use averages ? Are there any limitations to their use ? Illustrate with your own examples related to development.

- Ans. (i) Average is a single value which summarises the characteristics of mass of data. Since countries have different populations, total income does not tell us what an average person is likely to earn. This is known by average income. That is why, we use average or average income for measuring development.
 - (ii) Yes, there are following limitations to their use :
 - (a) An average is influenced by extreme values.
 - (b) An average may not give an idea about the formation of the series.

In other words, average income does not tell us how this income is distributed among people. For example, let us consider educational achievement of rural population of Uttar Pradesh.

Category	Male	Female
Literacy rate for rural population	76%	54%
Literacy rate for children in age group 10-14 years.	90%	87%
Percentage of rural children aged 10-14 attending school	85%	82%

This table shows that only 54% of rural females in Uttar Pradesh are literate while the national average of literacy rate of India is 74% for 2011.

- Q.7. Kerala, with lower per capita income, has a better human development ranking than Punjab. Hence, per capita income is not a useful criterion at all and should not be used to compare states. Do you agree ? Discuss.
- Ans. No, I do not agree with the statement that per capita income is not a useful criterion at all.

We can arrive at the following conclusions from the above fact :

- (i) The relationship between human development ranking and the per capita income does not show any correspondence.
- (ii) Money cannot buy all the goods and services that we may need to live well. For example, money cannot buy a pollution free environment.
- (iii) Income by itself is not a completely adequate indicator of material goods and services that citizens are able to use.
- Q.8. Find out the present sources of energy that are used by the people in India. What could be the other possibilities fifty years from now ?
- Ans. (i) The present sources of energy used by the people in India are as under :
 - (a) Conventional sources of energy :

1. Coal, 2. Petroleum, 3. Natural gas, 4. Electricity

(b) Non-conventional sources of energy :

1. Solar energy, 2. Wind energy, 3. Biogas, 4. Geothermal energy, 5. Wave energy, 6. Tidal energy, 7. Nuclear energy (ii) The possibilities that fifty years from now could be that India would have depend on electricity and non-conventional sources of energy. This is because, the world stock of crude oil would last only 43 years more if people continue to extract it at

the present rate.