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## India—Means of Transport and Communication

### Lesson Plan

#### Contents

- ▶ How transport and communication have helped people come closer to each other
- ▶ Means of transport through the ages
- ▶ Present transport – by land, air and water
- ▶ Means of communication through the ages
- ▶ Present communication – by post, telephone, the internet, different means of mass communication.

#### Objectives

- ▶ Learning about how people come closer to each other through transport and communication
- ▶ Learning about the history of transport and communication
- ▶ Learning about land transport, air transport and water transport
- ▶ Learning about present communication—telephone, internet, etc.

#### Teacher's Aids

- ▶ Maps of India – Political and Physical
- ▶ Maps showing distribution of transport and communication
- ▶ Atlases
- ▶ Blank maps of India for the students
- ▶ Blackboard, internet, pictures, magazines, etc.

#### Tips for Teacher

- ▶ Show the students the things in the text through visits to museums some of the means of transport and communication – like the Rail Museum, the National Philatelic Museum.
- ▶ Show them things like the Morse Key, fax machines, a telephone exchange, a post office, offices of a newspaper, studios of AIR, DD, etc.

## /// Gear Up, Background

- ▶ The correct order of the tasks in Gear Up is as follows:
  1. Choosing a place for your holiday
  2. Booking your tickets
  3. Packing your luggage
  4. Reaching the station
  5. Waiting on the platform
  6. Getting into the train
  7. Finding your berth
  8. Ticket collector checking your ticket
- ▶ Read the lesson aloud and explain, including the points to remember.
- ▶ Explain the purposes for which we travel – personal, holiday, business, etc.
- ▶ Explain the purposes for which we communicate – personal, official, social, news, advertisement, etc.

## /// Means of Transport

- ▶ In earlier times – travel on foot, on animals, invention of wheel – carts drawn by bullocks, camels, etc.
- ▶ Now variety of vehicles: bicycle, scooter, motorcycle, car, bus, truck, train, aeroplane, helicopter, boat, ship, etc.
- ▶ Three routes for travel – by land; by air; by water
- ▶ Land – road and rail
- ▶ Air – aeroplanes and helicopters
- ▶ Water – boats and ships
- ▶ **Roadways:** Important for transporting people and goods to short distances. Also for quick growth and development.
- ▶ **Variety of vehicles:** Carts, bicycles, scooters, motorcycles, autorickshaws, cars, vans, buses, trucks, etc.
- ▶ Roads – Kutchha [unmetalled] or pucca [metalled or cemented]
- ▶ National highways – Network connecting State capitals, big cities, ports. National Highway Authority of India
- ▶ State highways – Network connecting districts, villages, etc.
- ▶ Plains – More roads, easier to build – dense network.
- ▶ Good roads help during natural disasters also.
- ▶ Total length of roadways – 4.5 million km.
- ▶ NHA now constructing expressways.
- ▶ **Railways:** Second largest in Asia and fourth largest in the world – a lifeline for movement of passengers and goods.
- ▶ 1853 – first train from Mumbai to Thane- 34 km – steam engine.
- ▶ Now – 65000 km – connects cities, towns. Use diesel, electricity.
- ▶ Three types of tracks – broad, metre and narrow.
- ▶ Narrow track used in hills and mines. Shimla-Kalka, Siliguri-Darjiling heritage sites.

- ▶ Fast trains – Shatabdi, Rajdhani, Delhi-Agra fast passenger train
- ▶ Big cities – local trains or metros – fast, pollution-free.
- ▶ **Airways:** Fastest by aeroplane and also most expensive. Passengers and cargo.
- ▶ Started in 1911 – used for long distance – perishable goods like fruits, flowers, vegetables also carried.
- ▶ Public – Air India; Private sector – Jet Airways, IndiGo, Vistara, Spicejet, etc.
- ▶ Helicopters – short distance – difficult areas – also in natural disasters – search and rescue operations.
- ▶ Airport Authority of India – manages airports – national and international.
- ▶ **Waterways:** oldest and cheapest method – suitable for heavy, bulky goods over long distances.
- ▶ Ships for passengers, cargo, containers, petroleum, war, etc.
- ▶ Two types of waterways – inland and sea.
- ▶ Inland – rivers, canals, lakes, etc. Declined in India as roadways and railways developed.
- ▶ India's long coastline – 13 major and 185 minor seaports.
- ▶ Sea – 90% international sea-borne trade – major seaports. Mumbai – largest in India. Handle cargo ships, oil tankers, containers.

### /// Means of Communication

- ▶ Process of sending and receiving messages – communication
- ▶ Earlier – pigeons, horse-riders, etc.
- ▶ Now – letters, telephone, fax, e-mail, radio, newspapers, magazines, films, TV, the internet.
- ▶ Post – cheapest and most common – largest network in the world.
- ▶ Fax – uses phone lines; e-mail – uses the internet – immediate communication.
- ▶ Phone – landline and mobile – personal and business communication.
- ▶ Mass communication – newspapers, magazines, radio, TV, films or SMS services. Audio-visual information about education, health, social issues.
- ▶ All India Radio and Doordarshan – news, educational and entertainment programmes.
- ▶ TV – 'live' programmes – many private channels 24×7.
- ▶ Newspapers – country and world events.
- ▶ Films – India largest producer in the world.