

Quadrant II – Notes

Programme: Bachelor of Arts (S.Y.B.A.)

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Unit: 1 – Introduction to Economic Geography

Module Name: Classification of Economic Activities- Tertiary and Quaternary

Module No: 08

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Case Studies and Additional Examples/Illustrations:

Economic activity:

1. According to Raich, “Economic activity is the production, distribution, and consumption of commodities.”
2. This definition was criticized and rephrased by O’ Connor- “Any economic activity involving the production, distribution, and consumption of commodities, depending on the level of generality.”

An important phase of economic development and social development in many countries has been characterised by the process of industrialisation. This has led to increase in number of people in secondary activities in comparison to lesser in tertiary and at expense of primary activities.

The most of the economically advanced nations involved in quaternary activities, where population is characterized by highest income and high degree of mobility in the process of development

Service / tertiary sector

- Retail – Most of the retail trading takes place in fixed establishments or stores solely devoted to selling. Street peddling, handcarts, trucks,

door-to-door, mail-order, telephone, automatic vending machines and internet are examples of non-store retail trading.

- Financial services – Insurance, investment –
Services occur at many different levels. Some are geared to industry, some to people, and some to both industry and people, e.g. the transport systems. Low-order services, such as grocery shops and laundries, are more common and widespread than high-order services or more specialised ones like those of accountants, consultants and physicians. Services are provided to individual consumers who can afford to pay for them. For example, the gardener, the launderers and the barber do primarily physical labour. Teacher, lawyers, physicians, musicians and others perform mental labour.
- Leisure and hospitality – Tourist Regions
The warmer places around the Mediterranean Coast and the West Coast of India are some of the popular tourist destinations in the world. Others include winter sports regions, found mainly in mountainous areas, and various scenic landscapes and national parks, which are scattered. Historic towns also attract tourists, because of the monument, heritage sites and cultural activities.

Factors Affecting Tourism

Demand: Since the last century, the demand for holidays has increased rapidly. Improvements in the standard of living and increased leisure time, permit many more people to go on holidays for leisure.

Transport: The opening-up of tourist areas has been aided by improvement in transport facilities. Travel is easier by car, with better road systems. More significant in recent years has been the expansion in air transport.

For example, air travel allows one to travel anywhere in the world in a few hours of flying time from their homes. The advent of package holidays has reduced the costs.

Tourist Attractions

Climate: Most people from colder regions expect to have warm, sunny weather for beach holidays. This is one of the main reasons for the importance of tourism in Southern Europe and the Mediterranean lands. The Mediterranean climate offers almost consistently higher

temperatures, than in other parts of Europe, long hours of sunshine and low rainfall throughout the peak holiday season. People taking winter holidays have specific climatic requirements, either higher temperatures than their own homelands, or snow cover suitable for skiing.

Landscape: Many people like to spend their holidays in an attractive environment, which often means mountains, lakes, spectacular sea coasts and landscapes not completely altered by man.

History and Art: The history and art of an area have potential attractiveness. People visit ancient or picturesque towns and archaeological sites, and enjoy exploring castles, palaces and churches.

Culture and Economy: These attract tourists with a penchant for experiencing ethnic and local customs. Besides, if a region provides for the needs of tourists at a cheap cost, it is likely to become very popular. Home-stay has emerged as a profitable business such as

Communication

- ✓ Communication services involve the transmission of words and messages, facts and ideas. The invention of writing preserved messages and helped to make communication dependent on means of transport. These were actually carried by hand, animals, boat, road, rail and air. That is why all forms of transport are also referred to as lines of communication.
- ✓ Where the transport network is efficient, communications are easily disseminated. Certain developments, such as mobile telephony and satellites, have made communications independent of transport. All forms are not fully disassociated because of the cheapness of the older systems. Thus, very large volumes of mail continue to be handled by post offices all over the world.

Transportation-

Transport is a service or facility by which people, materials and manufactured goods are physically carried from one location to another. It is an organised industry created to satisfy man's basic need of mobility.

Modern society requires speedy and efficient transport systems to assist in the production, distribution and consumption of goods. At every stage

in this complex system, the value of the material is significantly enhanced by transportation.

Transport distance can be measured as: km distance or actual distance of route length; time distance or the time taken to travel on a particular route; and cost distance or the expense of travelling on a route. In selecting the mode of transport, distance, in terms of time or cost, is the determining factor. Isochrone lines are drawn on a map to join places equal in terms of the time taken to reach them.

Network and Accessibility

As transport systems develop, different places are linked together to form a network. Networks are made up of nodes and links. A node is the meeting point of two or more routes, a point of origin, a point of destination or any sizeable town along a route, Every road that joins two nodes is called a link. A developed network has many links, which means that places are well-connected.

Factors Affecting Transport

- ✓ Demand for transport is influenced by the size of population. The larger the population size, the greater is the demand for transport.
- ✓ Routes depend on: location of cities, towns, villages, industrial centres and raw materials, pattern of trade between them, nature of the landscape between them, type of climate, and funds available for overcoming obstacles along the length of the route.
- ✓ The service sector is concerned with the intangible aspect of offering services to consumers and business.
- ✓ It involves retail of manufactured goods. It also provides services, such as insurance and banking. In the twentieth century, the service sector has grown due to improved labour productivity and higher disposable income. More disposable income enables more spending on 'luxury' service items, such as tourism and restaurants.

Quaternary/knowledge sector

- Education
- Research and development
- Public sector bodies

The quaternary sector is said to be the intellectual aspect of the economy. It includes education, training, the development of technology, and research and development. It is the process which enables entrepreneurs to innovate better manufacturing processes and improve the quality of services offered in the economy. Without this growth of technology and information, economic development would be slow or non-existent.

It is also known as the knowledge economy – this is the component of the economy based on human capital – IT, knowledge, and education. It is primarily related to the service sector, but also is related to the high tech component of manufacturing.

Features of Tertiary Economic Activity:

- i. The tertiary sector involves the supplying of services to consumers and businesses.
- ii. This sector provides services to the general population and businesses, including retail, sales, transportation and restaurants.
- iii. The types of workers in this sector include restaurant bartenders, accountants, pilots etc.
- iv. Frequency of tertiary activity indicates the matured period of economic development in a state.
- v. In developing countries, few people (10% average) work in tertiary sectors.
- vi. In developed countries, most people (65% average) work in tertiary sectors.
- vii. The tertiary sector indicates a competition in international business sector.

Features of Quaternary Economic Activity:

- i. It is a knowledge-based sectors.
- ii. Computing knowledge, ICT expertise, scientific research etc. are included in this sector.
- iii. The developing countries have almost 1 or less than 1 percentile of this sector.
- iv. The developed countries have a notable percentage of quaternary sectors.
- v. It indicates a permanent stability and richness of economy of a country.

- vi. Decision making and planning activities are enhanced in this sector.
- vii. The development of this sector leads to quinary economic activity which is based on decision making actions.