

Transport Networks in India

Chapter 12: Lifelines of National Economy · Topic 1

Key Concept

Roadways form the most extensive transport network in India, providing flexible, door-to-door connectivity, especially important for rural and remote areas.

Railways are crucial for transporting large quantities of goods and passengers over long distances efficiently and are especially important for bulk goods like coal and minerals.

Waterways, including rivers and coastal shipping, offer a cost-effective way to transport heavy goods, though they are less developed compared to roads and railways in India.

Airways provide the fastest transport option, especially important for long-distance travel and time-sensitive goods, though they are typically more expensive than other transport modes.

Quick Revision Notes

- India has road, rail, water and air transport networks.
- Roadways are the most extensive network.
- Roads provide flexible, door-to-door connectivity.
- Railways transport large quantities of goods efficiently.
- Railways are important for bulk goods like coal.
- Waterways include rivers and coastal shipping.
- Waterways are cost-effective for heavy goods but less developed.
- Airways are the fastest but most expensive transport mode.

Practice Questions

- 1 List the four main types of transport in India.
- 2 Discuss why roadways are the most extensive network.
- 3 Explain why railways suit bulk goods transport.
- 4 Research a major waterway used for transport in India.
- 5 Discuss when air transport might be preferred despite the cost.
- 6 Create a chart comparing the four transport modes.