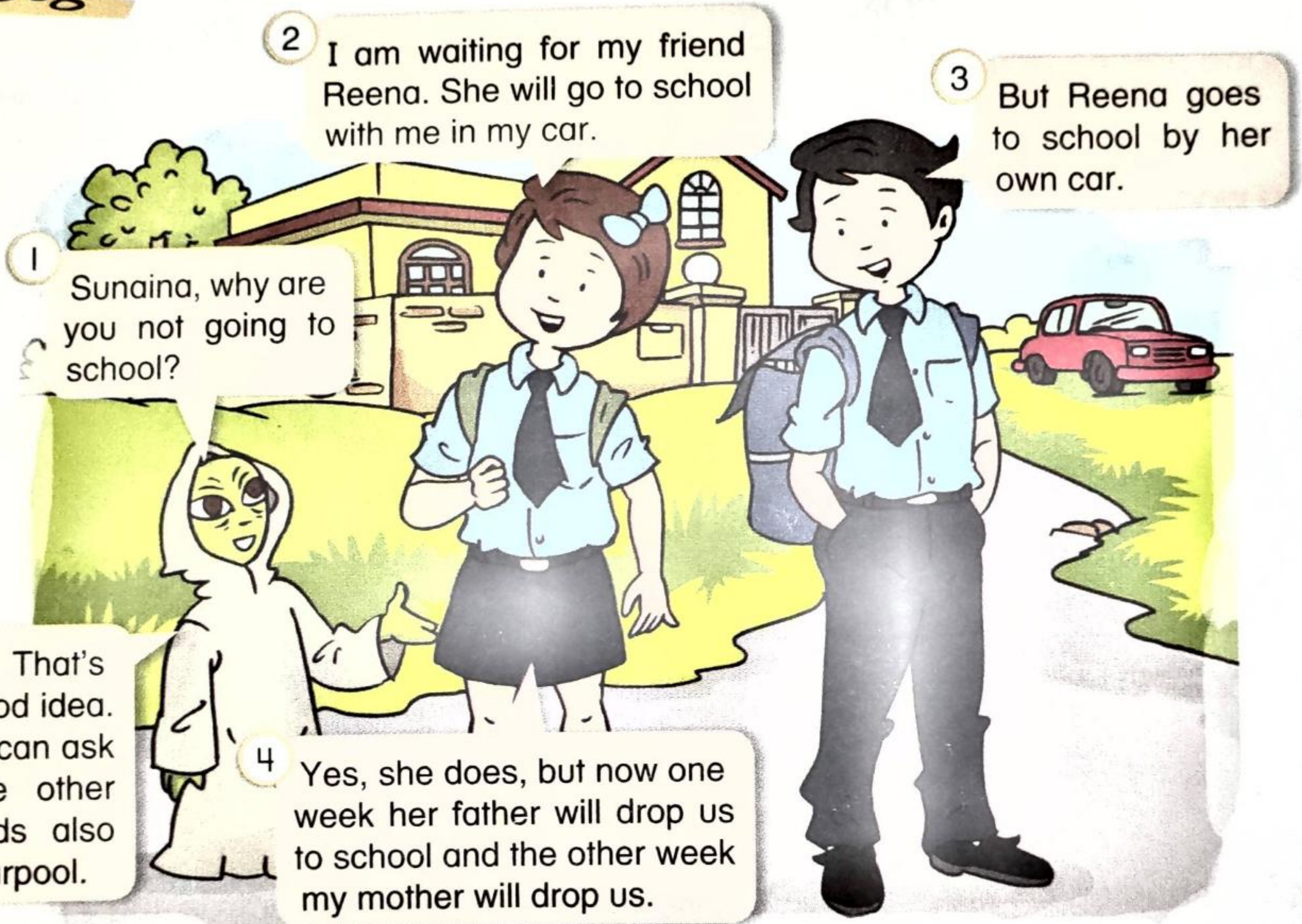


# Conquering Distances

## LET'S FOCUS

- Need to travel
- Significance of transportation
- Transport systems in India
- Trade and voyage

### Let's Begin



**Make a list of some of the means of transport used by you (land, air, water).**

Railways - Rajdhani Express - Delhi to Mumbai

1. \_\_\_\_\_
2. \_\_\_\_\_
3. \_\_\_\_\_
4. \_\_\_\_\_
5. \_\_\_\_\_



The word **transport** refers to basically the means and systems which carry **people** and **goods** from one place to another. The development of any country depends largely upon its transport system.

## Significance of Transportation

Transport helps us in several ways. Development and advancement of means and modes of transport has shrunk the world. People can now easily travel to far off and also to remote places. Transport has played an important role in the following ways:

- Helps people to reach their place of work or visit new places for vacations.
- Helps people in reaching places having natural resources or raw materials and distribute the finished or manufactured products to the markets in a speedier way.
- Helps in selling the finished goods not only within the country but also to foreign countries.
- Helps people to reach places struck by disaster and carry out rescue operations.
- Helps in bringing people from different countries closer through cultural exchanges and interchange of knowledge and ideas.



▲ Different modes of transportation

## Transport Systems in India

India is a vast country and has well-developed, diverse modes of transport.

Let us take a look at those.

### Roadways

**Roads** are routes on tracks built to connect towns and villages to cities, for people to move and goods to be transported. Roads have been in use since ancient times.



In those days they used to be unsurfaced or unmetalled, which can be still seen today in the rural areas. Surfaced or **metalled** roads are made strong and hard to be able to withstand heavy traffic, like the ones you see in cities.

- Roads can be built everywhere—on plains, through forests, deserts and also over the mountain slopes.
- They are easy to maintain.
- They are ideal for short and medium distance travel and a cheap means.

### Let's Know More

India has the second largest road network in the world.

### Types of Roads

National Highway	Expressways	State Highways	Village or Rural Roads
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Connects all major cities and the state capitals.</li> <li>• They are multi-laned, that is, two, four or eight laned.</li> <li>• The longest National Highway is the NH7 connecting Varanasi in UP to Kanyakumari.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Long distance metalled roads connecting important cities.</li> <li>• Slow moving vehicles are not allowed. For example, Durgapur Expressway and Mumbai–Pune Expressway.</li> </ul>	<p>These are two-laned highway connecting the state capitals to the other important cities within the state.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• These are brick roads covered with coal tar.</li> <li>• These connect the villages to the towns and district headquarters.</li> </ul>

### Two major highways

Two major highway projects have been undertaken by the government recently.

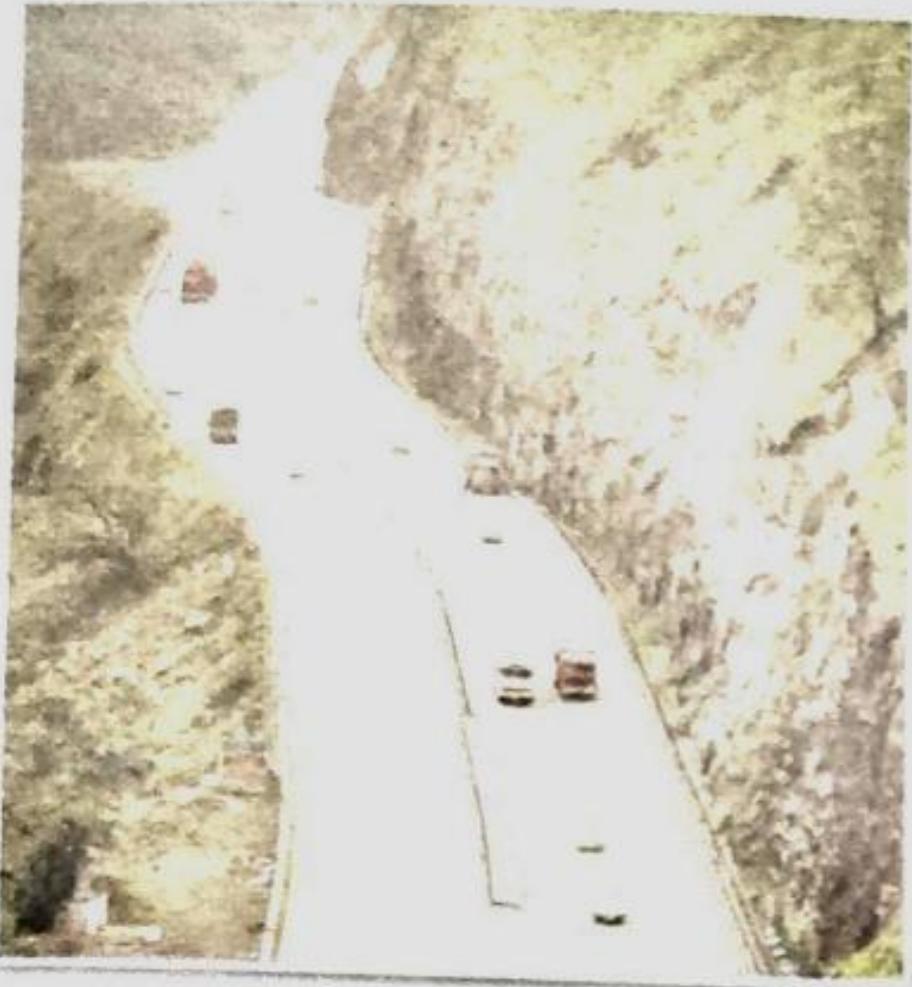
1. The **Golden Quadrilateral** is a network of highway connecting the four metros—**Delhi, Mumbai, Kolkata** and **Chennai**.

### Let's Know More

The most famous road of ancient India was the Grand Trunk Road built by Sher Shah Suri connecting Kolkata to Peshawar in Pakistan.



2. The **East-West** and the **North-South Corridor**, connect Porbandar in the west to Silchar in the east, and Srinagar in the north to Kanyakumari in the south, respectively.



▲ Mumbai-Pune Expressway



▲ Trucks on the highway in Rajasthan



▲ The Bandra-Worli Sea Link

## Railways

Specially designed vehicles called **trains** run on two parallel **rail tracks**, made of iron or steel. These tracks are called the **railways**. These tracks have different widths, called the **gauge**.

Do you know that the first train was a horse drawn one? The track was built between Swan sea and Mumbles in England, to carry passengers, in 1806. In India, the British built the first track between Mumbai and Thane in 1853! So, our **Indian Railways** is **160 years old!** Not only is the Indian Railway network, the largest in Asia, but also the second largest in the world.



▲ The Metro rail in Kolkata



▲ The Kolkata tramway also run on rails

Different types of trains operate on different tracks in India. Most of the **passenger** and **goods** trains run on **broad gauge** tracks.



In the hilly regions **narrow gauge** tracks have been laid. Two such famous tracks are Kalka to Shimla and New Jalpaiguri to Darjeeling where toy trains still run! Another special train system running underground is the **Metro Rail System**. Kolkata was the first city to privileged to build this network, followed by New Delhi.



▲ Toy train in Darjeeling

- Railway is a cheaper means of transport for long distance travel, both for passengers and goods.
- They can transport large amounts of goods to different places.
- They are relatively fast, considering they cover long distances.
- They help in the development of the country by connecting raw material areas, manufacturing units and the markets, where the goods are to be sold.

**Let's Know More**

- The world's highest railway station is in Tibet, at Nagqu.
- The second highest railway track is our very own Kashmir Railways.
- The Trans-Siberian Railway in Russia is the longest rail line in the world!

**Waterway**

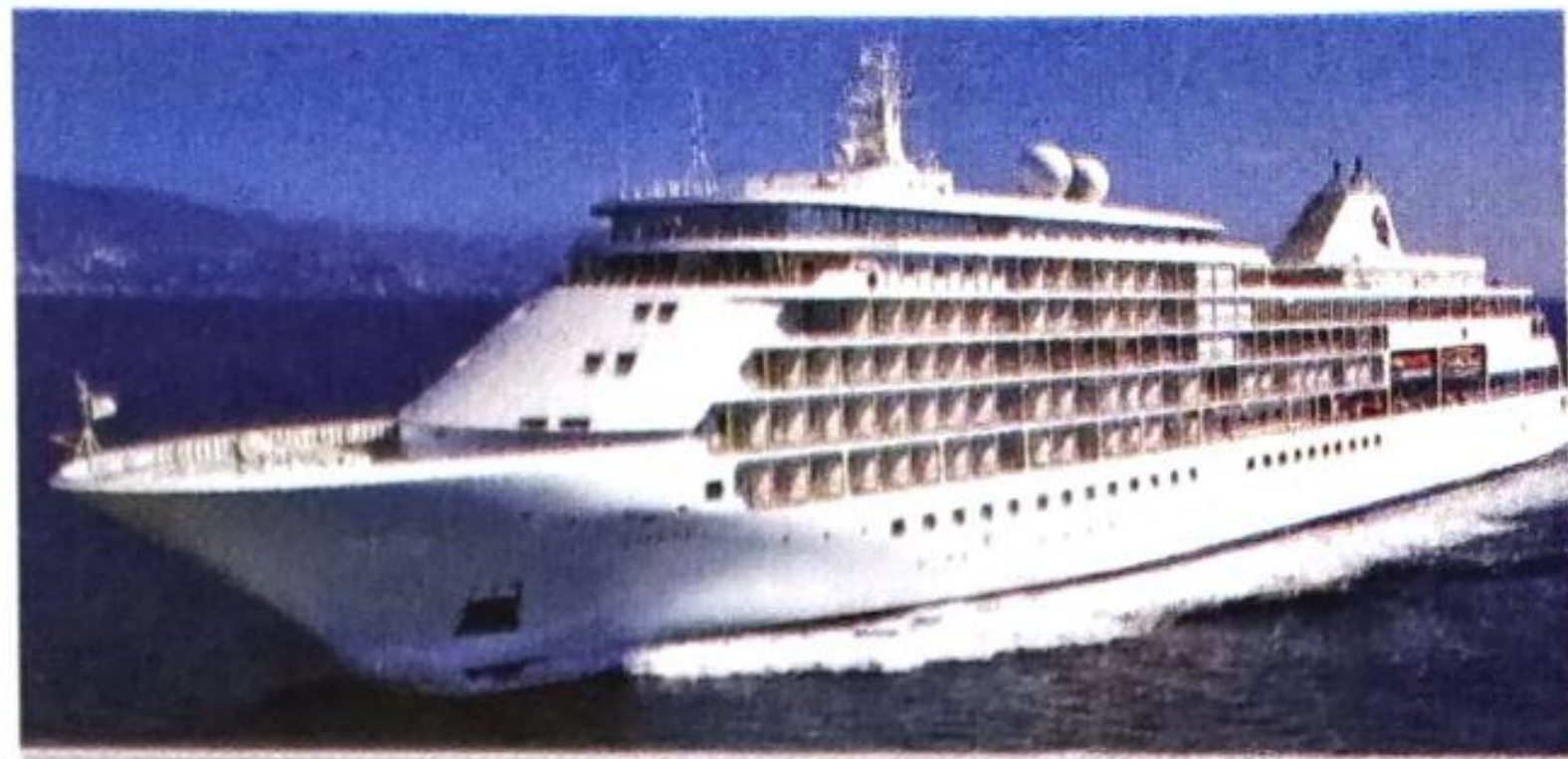
Transport through rivers, canals and seas, is one of the **oldest** means, carrying people and goods over short as well as long distances. Travel routes through water are called **waterways**.

**Types of waterways**

Inland	Oceanic
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• These comprise of the rivers, canals and the backwaters in the country.</li> <li>• Boats, ships, ferries and steamers are used to transport goods and carry passengers in these waterways.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• These include ocean and sea routes connecting the continents and far-off countries.</li> <li>• Large <b>cargo ships</b>, oil tankers and barges carry the heavy goods, oil, textiles, machines, food items, and so on enabling the world trade.</li> <li>• Beautiful ocean liners or luxury ships offer cruises and vacations for the people.</li> </ul>



- Waterways are the cheapest mode of transport specially if bulky goods are to be transported to other continents.
- Although waterways is not a fast means of transport, it is a cheap and easy means to travel over short and long distances for people living in the rural areas.



▲ Luxury ocean liners or sea cruises



▲ Vizag seaport

**Ports** are built along the coasts for ships to dock and on or offload the goods they carry or for passengers to get off, coming from other countries. There are thirteen major ports in India. Some of which are **Kolkata**, **Vishakhapatnam**,

**Chennai**, **Kochi**, **Marmugao** and **Navi Mumbai**. A place where ships take shelter for a few weeks or months, for maintenance and repair is called a **harbour**.

### Let's Dig Out

By the way, the various means of transport are also means of communication. Find out how.

### Let's Know More

The world's first self-powered flight was conducted by the Wright Brothers in 1903!

### Airways

An aircraft or an **aeroplane** is the machine which carries people and goods in the air to different places. Out of all the modes of transport, airways was the last to develop.

A place where aeroplanes land or take off is called an **airport**. India has more than 300 civilian and more than 20 international airports. The **Indira Gandhi International Airport** in New Delhi and the **Chhatrapati Shivaji International Airport** in Mumbai handle more than half of the air traffic in South Asia.

The only airline owned by the government is **Air India** which handles both domestic and international flights, under the same banner. Several private airlines now dominate the



▲ An international airport



market like **Jet Airways**, **IndiGo** and **SpiceJet**, which handle mostly domestic flights.

- Air transport is the **fastest** among all the means of transport.
- It can access remote areas, like deserts and hilly regions, where roads and rails cannot reach.
- It is the best means of transport in case of emergencies like floods or earthquakes.
- However, it is the **most expensive** of all other means of transport.



▲ Helicopters can reach remote places

## Trade and Voyage

Modern means of transport facilitate the growth of trade within the country and across the borders. It enhances tourism which helps to generate revenue through foreign exchange. It also provides employment to thousands of people. Travelling to explore the world strengthens national and international integration and develops better understanding among countries and its people. It helps in uniting people all over the world.

## Let's Recap

- Transport refers to the means and systems carrying people and goods from one place to another.
- People travel for various reasons like leisure, work and migration.
- Modern means of transport are faster, sturdier and more efficient than earlier means.
- The development of a country depends upon its efficient transport means.
- The transport systems in India include roadways, railways, waterways and airways.
- Waterways are the cheapest and airways are the most expensive transport systems.



Social Studies · Class - V

Chapter - 3

Conquering Distances

Date: - 3 July 2020.

Day: - Friday.

[Continuing]

D. Answer the following.

1. State two ways in which transport is important for us.

→ Two ways in which transport is important for us are -

i) Transport helps people to reach their place of work or visit new places for vacations.

ii) Transport helps in selling the finished goods not only within the country but also to foreign countries.

2. Differentiate between national and state highways.



→ Differentiation between

<u>National Highways</u>	<u>State Highways</u>
--------------------------	-----------------------

i) Connect all major cities and the state capitals.

i) Connect the state capitals to the other important cities within the state.

ii) They are multi-laned, that is, two, four or eight laned highways.

ii) They are two-laned highways.

3. State where and when were the first rail tracks built in England and India.

→ The first rail track built in England was between Swan Sea and Mumbles in 1806.

The first rail track built in India was between Mumbai and Thane 1853.



4. State two advantages of railways.

→ Two advantages of railways are -

i) Railway is a ~~cheap~~ cheaper ~~and~~ means of transport.

ii) They can transport large amounts of goods to different places.

5. Mention one positive and one negative feature of each -  
Waterways and airways.

→ Positive feature of waterways -

Waterways are the cheapest mode of transport.

Negative feature of waterways -

Waterways is not a fast means of transport.

Positive feature of Airways -

It is the fastest means of transport.

Negative feature of Airways -

It is the most expensive means of transport.



6. How is travelling helpful for trade and tourism?

→ Travelling enhances tourism which helps to generate revenue through foreign exchange. It also provides employment to thousands of people. Travelling helps to explore the world, ~~and~~ strengthens national and international integration and develops better understanding among countries and its people. It helps in uniting people all over the world.

[To be continued.]

Next Friday → Social Studies Class →  
Chapter - 3 → Inside Q & A.

STAY HOME, STAY SAFE.