

AGRO BASED INDUSTRIES



Agro-based industries:

They obtain their raw materials from agricultural products.
Example: Textiles—cotton, jute, silk and woolen. Rubber, Sugar, Coffee, Tea and Edible Oil, etc.

Textile Industry

Importance

Occupies a unique position in the Indian Economy.
It contributes significantly to industrial production (14%).
It employs largest number of people after agriculture, i.e., 35 million persons directly.
Its share in the foreign exchange earnings is significant at about 24.6%.

It contributes 4% towards GDP and is the only industry in the country which is self-reliant and complete in the value chain.

Cotton Textile Industry

The cotton textile industry was concentrated in the cotton growing belt of Maharashtra and Gujarat.

□ Factors for concentration/location of cotton textile industry in Maharashtra and Gujarat

- Availability of raw cotton was abundant and cheap.
- Moist climate in these coastal States also helped in the development of cotton textile industry because humid conditions are required for weaving cloth, else the yarn breaks.
- Well developed transportation system and accessible port facilities in Maharashtra and Gujarat.
- Proximity to the market and cotton clothes are ideal to wear in these warm and humid States.

Problems faced by the cotton textile industry:

- Power supply is erratic in our country.
- Outdated machineries, especially in weaving and processing sectors.
- Low labour productivity.
- Import of cotton in spite of the fact that the production of cotton in the country has increased.
- Stiff competition from the synthetic fiber industry.





Why did Gandhiji lay emphasis on use of Khadi?

.He wanted to promote the feeling of nationalism, for which he wanted Indians to boycott British made goods, and wear only clothes made by Indians.

He wanted the Indians to be self-reliant.

Also, he did not want the Indian weavers to suffer as the machine made clothes sent from Britain, flooded the Indian market were cheap.

What is loomage?

The yarn consumed by a certain mode of production is called loomage.

Why is it important for our country to keep mill-sector loomage lower than powerloom and handloom?

Powerloom and handloom in India are used by the cottage industries.

They provide income to the economically deprived sections of society. If the mill sector consumes more yarn than the individual weavers who depend on powerlooms and handlooms for their sustenance will be out of work. Keeping the mill sector loomage low helps the poor weavers to earn and face the competition with the mass products.

The powerloom and handloom will help to provide employment in the rural areas and reduce the migration of villagers to the cities.



Jute Textile Industry is one of the major Industries in the Eastern India, particularly in West Bengal.

JUTE TEXTILES

Jute industry supports around 40 Lakh farm families and provides direct employment to 2.6 Lakh Industrial Workers and 1.4 Lakh in the tertiary sector.

Jute Industry is labour intensive.

Factors responsible for the concentration of jute industry on the banks of Hugly:

- Proximity of the jute producing areas to the Hugly Basin.
- Inexpensive water transport provided by the Hugly river.
- It is well connected by a good network of railways, waterways and roadways.
- Abundant water for processing raw jute.
- Availability of cheap labor from West Bengal, Bihar, Odisha and Uttar Pradesh.
- Kolkata as a port and large urban centre, provides banking, insurance and port facilities.

Challenges faced by the Jute Industry in India

Effects of Partition: Due to Partition in 1947, the erstwhile jute-producing areas went to the then East Pakistan which received 82% of the good quality jute growing tract India retained 95% of the mills. The resultant acute shortage of raw jute forced some of the mills to close down.

High cost of production: Equipments for production are all worn out, outdated in design. Many mills are uneconomic. Products are made costlier.

Shorage of raw Jute: Jute industry suffers from inadequate supply of raw jute.

Shortage of Power Supply: Load-shedding creates problem of under-utilization of capacity.

Growth of Jute mills in Bangladesh and loss of foreign market: Newly started jute industry in Bangladesh has captured some of the markets of Indian jute goods.

Emergence of substitute goods against gunny bags and loss of demand for jute goods both at home and abroad.

Competition: Indian jute goods have been losing ground in the world market primarily due to keen competition from synthetic substitutes and also supplies from Bangladesh and China.



Sugar can be produced from sugarcane, sugar-beet or any other crop having sugar content. But in India, sugarcane is the main source of sugar. At present, this is the second largest agro-based industry of India after cotton textile industry.

SUGAR INDUSTRY

Various steps taken by the government to boost the production of Jute are:

(i) In 2005, National Jute Policy was formulated with the objective of increasing productivity.

(ii) Improvement of quality.

(iii) Ensuring good prices to the jute farmers and enhancing the yield per hectare.

Thank you

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