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Understanding Social Science

Question Answer:**1. Why do some people live in crowded cities while others live in scattered villages?**

Ans. People live in different settlement patterns due to differences in opportunities and lifestyle:

- **Employment Opportunities:** Cities provide a wide range of jobs in industries, offices, and services, which attract many people.
- **Improved Facilities:** Urban areas offer better education, healthcare, transport, and communication services.
- **Migration to Cities:** Many people move from villages to cities in search of a better standard of living, increasing population density.
- **Type of Occupation:** Village life is mainly based on agriculture, which requires large areas of land, leading to scattered settlements.
- **Space Availability:** Villages have plenty of open space, whereas cities have limited land, resulting in crowded living conditions.
- **Lifestyle Variation:** Rural life is generally simple and peaceful, while urban life is fast-paced and more crowded.

2. Why do different communities speak different languages and follow different traditions?

Ans. Different communities have their own languages and traditions due to various historical and geographical reasons:

- **Geographical Influences:** Natural environment affects settlement, food, houses, and customs.
- **Historical Evolution:** Society has developed from simple settlements to modern cities over time.
- **Adaptation to Environment:** People change their lifestyle, clothing, and work based on surroundings.
- **Power of Continuity:** Traditions and languages continue through generations, maintaining identity.
- **Interdependence vs Isolation:** Communities are unique but also connected through trade and interaction.

3. Why do some regions depend on farming, while others focus on industry or trade?

Ans. Different regions follow different economic activities based on their resources and conditions:

- **Natural Resources:** Areas with fertile soil and good rainfall depend on farming, while regions rich in minerals support industries.
- **Climate:** Suitable climate helps agriculture, whereas extreme climates may limit farming and encourage other activities.
- **Location:** Coastal areas and places near rivers are better for trade due to easy transport.
- **Availability of Raw Materials:** Industries develop where raw materials like coal, iron, or oil are available.
- **Technology & Infrastructure:** Developed regions with better transport, machines, and facilities focus more on industry and trade.
- **Population Skills:** People's skills and education also influence whether they engage in farming, industry, or business.

4. How do governments make decisions that affect millions of people?

Ans. Governments make decisions through a well-organised system of institutions and processes:

- **Elected Representatives:** People elect their leaders in elections. These representatives speak for the citizens.
- **Law-Making (Legislature):** The government makes laws and policies in the parliament or assembly.

- **Implementation (Executive):** Government departments and officials implement these laws and policies.
- **Judiciary:** Courts ensure that laws are followed and protect the rights of people.
- **Public Needs & Data:** Decisions are based on surveys, reports, and the needs of society.
- **Public Participation:** Citizens can give opinions through voting, protests, and discussions.

5. Why are certain regions more prone to floods?

Ans. Some regions experience floods more often due to natural and human factors:

- **Heavy Rainfall:** Areas receiving excessive rainfall are more likely to face floods.
- **River Overflow:** Regions near rivers can flood when rivers overflow during heavy rains.
- **Low-Lying Land:** Floodplains and low-lying areas get easily submerged.
- **Deforestation:** Cutting down trees reduces water absorption, increasing surface runoff.
- **Poor Drainage:** Lack of proper drainage systems leads to water accumulation.
- **Cyclones and Storms:** Coastal areas face floods due to storms and rising sea levels.

6. Why does agriculture flourish in some regions but not in others?

Ans. Agriculture grows well only in regions where natural conditions are suitable. The main reasons are:

- **Soil Fertility:** Regions with rich and fertile soil support better crop growth, while poor soil reduces productivity.
- **Climate:** Suitable temperature and rainfall are necessary for crops. Too much or too little rain can harm agriculture.
- **Water Availability:** Areas with good irrigation facilities and water supply have better farming.
- **Relief (Land Features):** Flat plains are more suitable for farming than hilly or rocky areas.
- **Technology & Methods:** Use of modern tools, fertilizers, and techniques improves agricultural output.
- **Government Support:** Policies, subsidies, and infrastructure help farmers in some regions more than others.

7. How does climate change influence our lives?

Ans. Climate change has a major impact on our daily lives in many ways:

- **Rising temperatures** make summers hotter and can cause health problems like heatstroke.
- **Irregular rainfall** affects agriculture, leading to crop failure and food shortages.
- **Extreme weather** events like floods, droughts, and cyclones damage homes and infrastructure.
- **Water scarcity** increases in many regions due to changing rainfall patterns.
- **Agriculture** is affected, reducing farmers' income and food supply.
- **Health** issues increase, such as the spread of diseases and respiratory problems.
- **Melting glaciers** and rising sea levels threaten coastal areas.

LET'S ANALYSE

1. What was the situation earlier?

Ans.

- Earlier, the situation in the locality was less developed and less organised.
- Basic facilities like transport, roads, and services were limited.
- There was less population and fewer buildings.
- Technology and modern infrastructure were not widely available.
- People faced more difficulties in daily life, such as travel, communication, or access to services.

2. What has changed?

Ans.

- Roads have been widened and repaired.
- New bus routes and transport services have been introduced.

- Traffic signals and streetlights have been installed.
- Availability of online transport services (cabs, autos) has increased.

3. What might have caused this change?

Ans.

- Increase in population and urbanisation.
- Government initiatives for infrastructure development.
- Growing demand for better connectivity and mobility.
- Technological advancements in transport services.

4. How has it affected people's lives?

Ans.

- Travel has become faster and more convenient.
- Reduced traffic congestion and accidents.
- Improved access to schools, hospitals, and workplaces.
- Better quality of life and time-saving for people.

