

## 4. Primary Economic Activities

Make friends with maps!

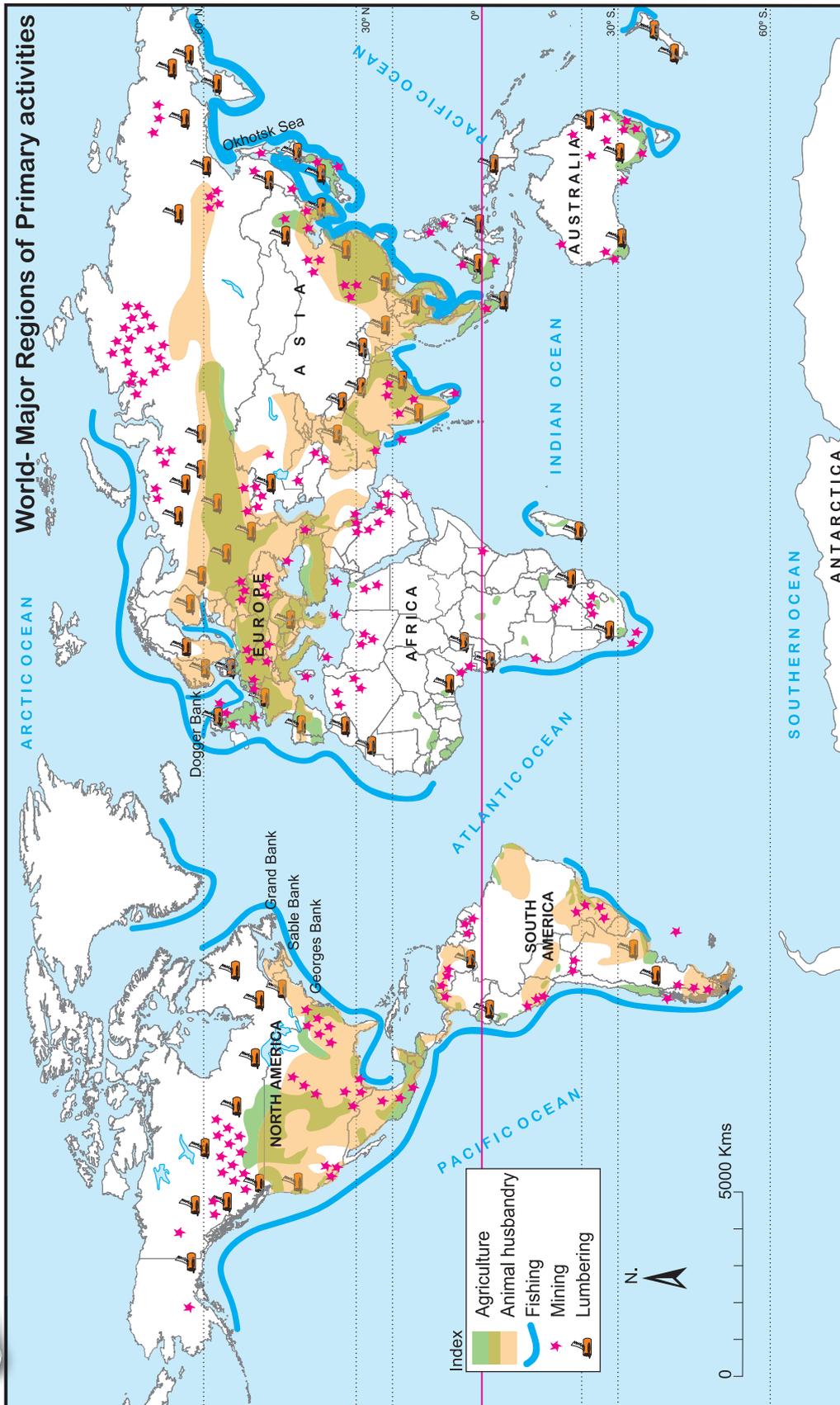


Fig . 4.1

Observe the given in fig. 4.1 map and answer the following questions :

- 1) Which economic activities are shown on the map?
- 2) In which regions do you don't find any activity? What could be the reason?
- 3) In which latitudes do you primarily find the distribution of lumbering activity?
- 4) Why is fishing occupation only found in certain areas in the oceans?
- 5) Which primary economic activities are mostly found in Europe?
- 6) What production does the symbol of mining shown in seas and oceans depict?
- 7) In which continent is mining not found?
- 8) In which ocean is the world's fishing mostly carried out?
- 9) Which primary economic activities are found to the south of Tropic of Capricorn?
- 10) Which primary activity is found in the islands of South East Asia?
- 11) Considering all the four continents, in which continent do you find less agriculture being practised?
- 12) Write a paragraph on relationship between latitudinal extent of agriculture and climate in your own words.

### Geographical explanation

You must have understood the difference in the distribution of various activities from the given observation. All these activities are dependent on nature. Hunting, gathering, animal husbandry, agriculture, fishing, lumbering, mining etc. are primary economic activities.

Natural resources exploited in primary activities, factors affecting these activities and effect of natural calamities affect these primary activities.

To fulfil the needs of growing population, to provide technical help to manpower etc. mechanization was started in primary activities.



### Try this.

Complete the following table in your notebook. One has been done for you as an example.

Table 4.1

Primary economic activity	Natural resources required for the activity	Factors affecting activities	
		Natural	Man-made
Agriculture	Land, soil, water, air	Slope of land, Quality of soil, favourable climate, rainfall	Fertilizers, insecticides, farm machines
Animal husbandry			
Fishing			
Mining			
Lumbering			
Gathering			

### Primary Occupations :

- 1) **Hunting** : Hunting was a primitive activity of man to obtain food. A large number of animal species have become extinct or are on the verge of extinction because of large-scale hunting. Commercial hunting is banned all over the world. Also many laws are being passed to conserve and protect the animals. Some tribes practice hunting for their subsistence.

### Distribution :

Bushmen of Kalahari desert (South Africa), Pygmies of Equatorial Selvas, Boras, Eskimos of Tundra, Sentinels in Andaman, Jarawahs, Onges, etc. hunt for livelihood.



### Find out !

With the help of the internet, find about the Wild Life (Conservation) Act.

## 2) Gathering :



Can you tell ?



Fig. 4.2

- 1) Identify the images given above.
- 2) What are these products made from?
- 3) Where do you find the raw materials that are required to make these products?
- 4) What is the occupation of obtaining these raw materials called?



Give it a try.

Complete Table 4.2 in your notebook. One has been done for you as an example.

Table 4.2 : Lumbering practised in different parts of the world

Type of forest	Regions	Characteristics of forests	Characteristics of lumbering activity
Equatorial Evergreen forests	Amazon river basin in South America, Congo river basin of Africa, West coast of Africa, South East Asia, Papua New Guinea.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Dense forests</li> <li>• Many species in a small area</li> <li>• Hard Wood trees</li> <li>• Accessibility is difficult</li> <li>• Inhospitable climate</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Dense forests increase inaccessibility and transportation issues</li> <li>• Traditional methods of lumbering</li> <li>• Insects, reptiles cause problems</li> <li>• Hard wood is comparatively less in demand than softwood</li> <li>• Presence of many species in one region unprofitable.</li> </ul>

## Geographical explanation

Many people in the world practice this activity which is dependent on the forest products. They collect fruits, roots and tubers, leaves, flowers, medicinal plants for their livelihood. They also collect products like gum, lac, honey, wax, rubber, etc. Different types of forest products are collected. e.g. kath is collected from monsoon forests from Khair trees. Some of these products have a high demand in the market. This activity is carried out on a large commercial scale. This occupation is carried out in all the forest covered regions of the world.

The equatorial forests are dense and evergreen. The climate is humid and unhealthy. Due to the disturbance of reptiles and insects, collection of forest products is not done on a large scale.

**3) Lumbering :** Observe the given map in Fig. 4.1 and answer the following questions :

- 1) Which countries in the monsoon region practise lumbering on a larger scale?
- 2) In which part of Australia is lumbering carried on?
- 3) Why do you think lumbering is not carried out in the Northern part of Africa?
- 4) Write a note on the relationship between latitudes and lumbering.
- 5) Lumbering is not developed on a commercial level in equatorial regions?

Type of forest	Regions	Characteristics of forests	Characteristics of lumbering activity
Tropical Deciduous forest (Monsoon)			
Temperate deciduous forest			
Temperate Coniferous forest			

### Geographical explanation

Amongst all other activities going on in the forest, lumbering is one of the most important activities. According to the nature of vegetation, we divided earth into various natural regions.

The trees in the tropical forest have hardwood. Also, these forests are evergreen and hence commercial lumbering cannot be done in these forests. Tropical deciduous or monsoon forests are not dense. Many bushes grow at the base of these forests. Since these forests are near agricultural lands and densely populated regions, they have been deforested for agricultural purpose on a large scale.

In the coniferous forests, only one species of trees is found in an area. These trees grow tall. That's why in the world, the lumbering activity is mostly practised in the coniferous regions.

Today, wood is used on a very large scale for various purposes, hence the percentage of forest in the world is decreasing drastically. As a result, hazards related to the environment are occurring.



### Can you tell?

List out the effects of deforestation on the environment, animals, birds and humans.

- 4) **Fishing** : Observe the map in Fig. 4.1 and answer the questions given below :

- 1) Along which coast of North America is the Grand Bank located?
- 2) Along which coast of South America is the fishing mostly practised?
- 3) In which part of the Australian continent has fishing activity developed?
- 4) Fishing is carried out on large scale on the Western coast of Africa than on the Eastern coast. Give reasons.
- 5) Commercial fishing is practised on the Southern coast of Greenland. Give reasons.

### Geographical explanation

There are many physical and human factors that impact development of fishing as a primary activity in certain areas of the world. Though it started as a subsistence level activity, fishing is now one of the major primary economic activities especially in coastal areas.

Some of the factors are as follows :

- (a) Wide expanse of the continental shelf with presence of shallow water. For example, North-West Pacific which is below 200 metres of depth near Okhotsk Sea near China.
- (b) Confluence of warm and cold currents and subsequent growth of abundant plankton. As a result, development of fishing grounds or banks takes place. For example, meeting of warm Kuroshio current with cold Oyashio

current favours coastal area near Japan for fishing.

Other factors which are favourable for development of fishing are :

- 1) The traditional skills of some people who are naturally good at fishing, for example, Japanese and Chinese. The fishing activity has further developed over here.
- 2) Large population of the country, lack of land and absence of other protein food makes island countries especially dependent on fish as a staple food. For example, Japan, Philippines.
- 3) Absence of alternative occupation makes fishing a major occupation.
- 4) Use of technology has increased fishing activity.
- 5) Broken coast line provides excellent port facilities.
- 6) Cold climate in temperate regions facilitates preservation of fish. In tropical countries, artificial refrigeration facilities have to be developed.
- 7) Nearby forest provides wood for ship building.



### Think about it.

What is the difference between fishing and pisciculture?

- 5) **Animal husbandry** : Look at the map in Figure 4.1 and answer the following questions :
- 1) Do you think there is a correlation between animal husbandry and grasslands?
  - 2) In which continent is animal husbandry not practised on a large scale?
  - 3) In which regions of the world do animal husbandry and agriculture coincide?
  - 4) Animal husbandry is found in between which latitudes of the world?
  - 5) In which zone between 30°North and

30°South latitudes, is animal husbandry not found on a large scale? What could be the reason behind?

- 6) What could be the reason of concentration of animal husbandry in the Eastern part of Australia?
- 7) Why is animal husbandry developed more in the arid regions of the interior of the continents?

### Geographical explanation

Considering the latitudinal distribution of animal husbandry in the world, it is located between 30°N to 60°N and 30°S to 55°S latitudes. Climate is one of the most influencing factors in the development of animal husbandry. It is more developed in the Northern Hemisphere. Presence of grasslands in all the continents has led to distribution of this occupation. But, this occupation is influenced by advanced technology, market and availability of large estates. It has developed on a commercial basis in North America, South America and Australia. The animal husbandry in North and South America is carried out with the help of advanced technology on a commercial scale. Dense forests inhospitable climate, low-quality fodder in equatorial region has discouraged the development of animal husbandry in these regions. Looking at fig. 4.1, we realise that agriculture and animal husbandry is done together in man's areas. Hence, they are considered as allied activities.



### Find out !

Find out how overexploitation of all kinds of animal resources affects human lives and environment.

- 6) **Mining** : Look at the fig. 4.1 and answer the following question :
- 1) In which part of North American continent is mining mainly found?

- 2) Mining activity is located along which coastal side of the continent of South America?
- 3) Comparing other primary economic activities, do you think the extent of mining is related to latitudes? Why?
- 4) Looking at the concentration of mining in the world, can you relate it with the economic development of the country?

### Geographical explanation

Man has been using minerals since ancient times. Minerals have been used for making weapons, tools, jewellery, medicines, utensils, etc. The various stages of cultural evolution of man are also related to the use of minerals. At the end of the Stone Age, man developed skills of using minerals. Various periods like the Copper Age, Bronze Age, Iron Age, Atomic Age, respectively were delineated accordingly. Man's progressive development can be attributed to the exploitation of minerals. He has even started exploiting the mineral oil and natural gas

### 7) Agriculture :

reserves from the sea and ocean beds too.

Man cannot manufacture the minerals that are found naturally in the earth's crust. The distribution of minerals is highly uneven in the world. This activity depends solely on the presence of minerals and not related to latitude directly. Even though the minerals may be present, actual mining depends on several factors. These factors may be the geology of the region, the value of the minerals, climate, capital investment, technology, skilled labour, etc. Due to mechanisation, this occupation has developed on a large scale. Many industries related to minerals locate near mining areas. Improved transportation facilities are very important for development of mining occupation. This, in turn, increases industries which in turn leads to economic development of the country.



### Find out !

Mining causes air, water, land and noise pollution on a large scale. Look for one example of each.



### Try this.

Complete the chain by observing the columns A , B and C. Write the number of the relevant characteristics and type of agriculture in column A:

A) Image	B) Characteristics	C) Type of Agriculture
Characteristics no. .... Type of Agriculture no. .... 	1) • Small land holding. • Maximum yield from small land. • Food crops are dominant. • Manual labour and use of animals. • China, India, Japan, Korea, Sri Lanka and East Asian countries. • Rice is the major crop.	A) Shifting Agriculture

Characteristics no. ....

Type of Agriculture no. ....



- 2) • Large size of farm.
- Capital intensive, more use of modern machinery.
- Monoculture
- Use of machinery from sowing to harvesting.
- Cultivation and commercial animal husbandry is done together
- Per hectare low but per capita income is high,
- Temperate grassland, Steppes, Praries, Downs, Pampas, Velds.
- Wheat and maize are the major crops.

B) Horticulture

Characteristics no. ....

Type of Agriculture no. ....



- 3) • Large farm size.
- Capital intensive.
- Monoculture.
- Local labour is employed.
- Crop is well managed for quality and processing.
- Per hectare yield low but total production is high.
- Once plantation is done, it gives production for 10 to 15 years.
- Tea, coffee, rubber, cocoa etc., spice plantations in Kerala, cashewnut plantation in Konkan region.
- Malaysia, India, Sri Lanka, Brazil, Indonesia, Caribbean Islands, Philippines, Thailand, Vietnam.

C) Market Gardening

Characteristics no. ....

Type of Agriculture no. ....



- 4) • Forest land is burnt and used for agriculture.
- Very small farm size.
- Production is very less.
- Production can be taken for only 2 – 3 years.
- Land left fallow and move ahead looking for another land.
- Forest resources decline and soil erosion occurs.
- Mainly practiced in forested tropical regions of Asia, South – East Asia, South and Central America and Africa.

D) Intensive Subsistence Agriculture

Characteristics no. ....

Type of Agriculture no. ....



5) • Modern type of agriculture.

- Fulfill the demands of urban people it is developed in fringe areas.
- Maximum production from limited agriculture area.
- Use of capital is high.
- Along with use of manual labour, use of scientific technology, knowledge and capital.
- Organic and chemical manures or fertilizers and irrigation.
- Practised in areas lying at distance of an overnight journey by trucks.
- Vegetables, fruits, milk, eggs, meat, fish etc.
- Developed mainly in highly industrialised and densely populated urban areas. e.g., fruits, vegetables and flowers from Khedshivapur, Saswad are brought to Pune.

E) Plantation Agriculture

Characteristics no. ....

Type of Agriculture no. ....



6) • Fruits, flowers, medicinal plants, ornamental plants etc. are produced for commercial use.

- Use of manual labour and mechanization.
- Practiced in tropical, Mediterranean and temperate regions where climate is supportive.

F) Extensive Commercial Agriculture

Fig. 4.3 : Types of agriculture and characteristics



### Try this.

On the basis of the information given and pictures shown above, classify the factors affecting agriculture into physical and human factors.

### Geographical explanation

When we look at the distribution of agriculture as an occupation in the world, we see that the proportion of people engaged in agriculture is maximum in Africa and then in Asia. Though the area under agriculture is more

extensive in Europe, the Americas and Australia; the percentage of population engaged in this activity is very less. Generally, the developed countries of the world have less population engaged in agriculture while the share of population engaged in agriculture is higher in developing countries.

Various crops are produced in the different parts of the world. Various physical and socio-economic factors influence the development of agriculture. Major physical factors that influence agriculture are climate, topography, soils and biotic factors. The economic and social factors include labour, market, capital, transportation facilities, storage facilities, government policies, population, ownership of

land etc. We saw various types of agriculture and their characteristics through the images given earlier. Greenhouses, polyhouses are also used for agriculture. Similarly, high-yielding seeds, fertilizers and insecticides are also used for increasing production.



**Think about it.**

- Greenhouses and poly-houses are used for growing vegetation from specific regions in other regions. Similarly, can they be used in snow-capped regions and polar areas?
- Besides these activities, can you think of other primary activities carried in the world? Make a list.



**Exercise**

**Q. 1) Choose the correct option and complete the sentence :**

- Gathering of various products from the forests for livelihood is mainly carried in
  - Temperate coniferous forests
  - Temperate deciduous forests
  - Tropical deciduous forests
  - Equatorial evergreen forests
- Ideal location for fishing
  - rugged coasts, shallow seas, hot climate, growth of planktons
  - shallow seas, confluence of warm and cold ocean currents, growth of planktons, cold climate
  - continental shelf, growth of planktons, good fishing skills, cold climate
  - continental shelf, broken coasts, growth of planktons, cold climate
- Primary Economic activity not related directly to latitudinal locations
 

a) lumbering	b) fishing
c) mining	d) agriculture
- Characteristics of extensive commercial

agriculture

- monoculture, use of water, tropical, cereal production
- monoculture, use of machinery, tropical, cereal production
- monoculture, use of manual labour, equator, Thailand, horticulture
- monoculture, use of scientific know how, sub-tropical, production of pulses

**Q. 2) Complete the chain :**

A	B	C
1) Intensive Subsistence agriculture	1) Dogger Bank	1) Small size of farm
2) Pampas Grassland region	2) Off shore oil and gas production	2) Unfavorable
3) Fishing	3) Rice	3) Bombay High
4) Gathering	4) Dense forest	4) NE Atlantic Ocean
5) Mining	5) Commercial animal husbandry	5) South America

**Q. 3) Write short notes on :**

- 1) Plantation agriculture
- 2) Physical factors and fishing
- 3) Lumbering on a commercial scale
- 4) Hunting and loss of ecosystem

**Q. 4) Give geographical reasons :**

- 1) Agriculture is done on a large scale in India.
- 2) Mining is developed in the Chhota Nagpur plateau of India.
- 3) Lumbering is developed on a large scale in Canada.
- 4) Extensive agriculture is a commercial type of agriculture.
- 5) Lumbering is practised more in coniferous region than in tropical region.
- 6) Hunting has been banned.

**Q. 5) Differentiate between :**

- 1) Lumbering in equatorial forests and Temperate forests.
- 2) Plantation agriculture and extensive commercial agriculture.
- 3) Mining and Fishing.

**Q. 6) Answer the following questions :**

- 1) What are the factors affecting commercial fishing?
- 2) Write a note on Intensive Subsistence agriculture.
- 3) Give the characteristics of Market Gardening.
- 4) Write a note on the areas in the world practicing commercial animal husbandry.
- 5) Mining is dependent on the extraction of naturally occurring minerals. Explain.

- 6) Write in detail about the characteristics of primary economic activities.

**Q. 7) On an outline map of the world, show the following with appropriate symbols and prepare an index :**

- 1) Dogger Bank fishing area.
- 2) Area of lumbering in Asia.
- 3) Area of animal husbandry in Australia
- 4) An area under agriculture in Europe.
- 5) Mining area in Arabian Sea.
- 6) Fishing area in South-West Atlantic Ocean.

**Q. 8) Given below is the data about the continent-wise employment engaged in primary economic activities in the year 2018. Draw a suitable diagram to represent the data and answer the questions that follow :**

Continent	% of population engaged in primary economic activities
Europe	7.91
Asia	24.49
North America	14.93
South America	14.94
Africa	47.28
Australia	27.79

Source: FAO data, 2018

- 1) In which continents is less than 10% of the population engaged in agriculture?
- 2) In which continent is more than 40% population engaged in agriculture?
- 3) Looking at the given data, can you arrange these continents in an ascending order on the basis of level of economic development?

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