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CUET · GEOGRAPHY · CLASS XII · CODE 313

Secondary Activities

CUET unit: Primary Activities

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📌 Snapshot

- Secondary activities add value to natural resources by transforming raw materials into more valuable finished products (manufacturing, processing, construction).
- Modern large-scale manufacturing has five characteristics: specialisation of skills, mechanisation/automation, technological innovation, complex organisational structure, and uneven geographic distribution.
- Seven location factors decide where industries set up — market, raw material, labour, energy, transport/communication, government policy, agglomeration economies — plus the footloose exception.
- Manufacturing industries are classified on four bases: size (cottage/small/large), inputs (agro/mineral/chemical/forest/animal), output (basic vs consumer goods), and ownership (public/private/joint).
- High-tech industry (R&D-driven, white-collar dominated, technopolies like Silicon Valley and Silicon Forest) is a standard CUET probe area.

📖 Detailed Notes

2.1 Core concepts

- Secondary activities add value to natural resources by **transforming** raw materials into more valuable products — e.g. cotton-to-yarn, iron ore-to-steel — and cover manufacturing, processing and construction industries (NCERT §Intro, p. 36).
- Manufacturing spans handicrafts to assembling space vehicles; the common features are application of power, mass production of identical products, and specialised labour in factory settings for standardised commodities (NCERT §Manufacturing, p. 36).
- Specialisation of skills/methods: under the "craft" method only a few made-to-order pieces are produced and costs are high, whereas mass production involves large quantities of standardised parts with each worker performing only one task repeatedly (NCERT §Specialisation, pp. 36-37).
- Conceptually, an industry is a geographically located manufacturing unit maintaining books of accounts under a management system; "manufacturing industry" is preferred to cover non-factory secondary activities like the entertainment and tourism industries (NCERT box "Manufacturing Industry", p. 37).

- Mechanisation means using gadgets to accomplish tasks; automation — production without aid of human thinking, with feedback and closed-loop computer control systems where machines are developed to "think" — is its advanced stage (NCERT §Mechanisation, p. 37).
- Technological innovation through R&D is important for quality control, eliminating waste/inefficiency and combating pollution (NCERT §Technological Innovation, p. 37).
- Modern manufacturing is marked by complex machine technology, extreme specialisation, vast capital, large organisations and executive bureaucracy (NCERT §Organisational Structure, p. 37).
- Uneven geographic distribution: major modern manufacturing concentrations cover less than 10 per cent of the world's land area but make these nations centres of economic and political power; manufacturing sites are spatially more intensive than agriculture — 2.5 sq km of the American corn belt holds about four large farms with 10-20 workers, whereas the same area could hold several large integrated factories employing thousands (NCERT §Uneven Geographic Distribution, p. 37).
- Industries locate where production costs are minimum; the seven factors are: access to market, access to raw material, access to labour supply, access to sources of energy, access to transport and communication, government policy, and access to agglomeration economies (NCERT §Why do Large-scale Industries⋯, pp. 37-38).
- Market: developed regions of Europe, North America, Japan and Australia provide large global markets due to high purchasing power; densely populated South and South-east Asia also offer large markets; aircraft and arms industries have global markets (NCERT §Access to Market, pp. 37-38).
- Raw material: industries using cheap, bulky, weight-losing ores (steel, sugar, cement) locate close to sources; perishability ties agro-processing and dairy plants to farms (NCERT §Access to Raw Material, p. 38).
- Labour: skilled labour still needed for some manufacturing, but mechanisation/ automation/flexibility have reduced dependence on labour (NCERT §Access to Labour Supply, p. 38).
- Energy: power-intensive industries (e.g. aluminium) locate near energy sources; coal was earlier dominant, today hydroelectricity and petroleum are also important (NCERT §Access to Sources of Energy, p. 38).
- Transport/communication: Western Europe and eastern North America's developed transport induced industrial concentration; transport improvements led to integrated economic development and regional specialisation (NCERT §Transportation, p. 38).
- Government policy: governments adopt "regional policies" for balanced economic development by setting up industries in particular areas (NCERT §Government Policy, p. 38).
- Agglomeration economies: savings derived from linkages between different industries when located near a leader-industry (NCERT §Agglomeration, p. 38).

- Footloose industries can locate in a wide variety of places — they do not depend on any specific raw material, rely on component parts available anywhere, produce in small quantity, employ small labour force, are generally non-polluting, and depend mainly on road network accessibility (NCERT box "Foot Loose Industries", p. 38).
- Industries are classified on the basis of size, inputs/raw materials, output/product, and ownership (NCERT Fig. 5.1, p. 39).
- Household/cottage industries: smallest unit; artisans use local raw materials and simple tools at home with family/part-time labour; outputs include foodstuffs, fabrics, pottery, bricks, jewellery, bamboo and wood crafts (NCERT §Household Industries, p. 40).
- Small-scale manufacturing: distinguished by workshop outside home, simple power-driven machines, semi-skilled labour, local raw material; India, China, Indonesia, Brazil developed labour-intensive small-scale manufacturing for employment (NCERT §Small Scale, p. 40).
- Large-scale manufacturing: needs large market, varied raw materials, enormous energy, specialised workers, advanced technology, assembly-line mass production and large capital; developed in the last 200 years in UK, north-eastern USA, Europe; now diffused worldwide (NCERT §Large Scale, p. 40).
- World's major industrial regions are of two broad types: (i) traditional large-scale industrial regions clustered in more developed countries, and (ii) high-technology large-scale industrial regions diffused to less developed countries (NCERT §Large Scale, p. 41).
- Inputs-based classification: (a) agro-based (sugar, edible oil, cotton textile, tea, coffee, rubber); (b) mineral based — ferrous (iron and steel), non-ferrous (copper, aluminium, jewellery), non-metallic (cement, pottery); (c) chemical based (petrochemicals, salts, sulphur, potash, synthetic fibre, plastic); (d) forest based (timber, lac, paper); (e) animal based (leather, wool, ivory) (NCERT §Industries based on Inputs, pp. 41-42; Fig. 5.1, p. 39).
- Agri-business is commercial farming on an industrial scale financed by businesses whose main interests lie outside agriculture (e.g. corporate tea plantations); these mechanised, large, structured, chemical-reliant farms are described as "agro-factories" (NCERT box "Agri-business", p. 41).
- Output-based classification: basic industries produce goods used as raw material for other industries (iron/steel → machines for textile industry → clothes for consumers); consumer-goods (non-basic) industries make goods consumed directly — bread, biscuits, tea, soaps, paper, televisions (NCERT §Industries Based on Output, p. 42).
- Ownership classification: public sector (government-owned, e.g. Indian PSUs and socialist state-owned units); private sector (owned by individual investors, typical of capitalist countries); joint sector (joint stock companies, or private and public sectors together) (NCERT §Industries Based on Ownership, p. 42).

- High-tech industry: latest generation of manufacturing, intensive R&D, advanced scientific and engineering products; white-collar professionals greatly outnumber blue-collar production workers; examples — robotics on assembly lines, CAD, electronic controls of smelting/refining, pharmaceutical R&D (NCERT §High Technology Industry, p. 42).
- High-tech landscape: neatly spaced, low, modern, dispersed office-plant-lab buildings rather than massive assembly structures; planned business parks for high-tech start-ups have become part of regional and local development schemes (NCERT §High Technology Industry, p. 42).
- Technopolies: high-tech industries that are regionally concentrated, self-sustained and highly specialised — examples include Silicon Valley near San Francisco and Silicon Forest near Seattle (NCERT §High Technology Industry, pp. 42-43).
- Manufacturing contributes significantly to the world economy; iron and steel, textiles, automobiles, petrochemicals and electronics are among the world's most important manufacturing industries (NCERT §Closing, p. 43).
- **Why secondary activities matter in the economic chain:** Primary activities supply raw materials; secondary activities transform those raw materials into finished or semi-finished products of higher value; tertiary activities then distribute and service the finished goods. The proportion of the labour force engaged in secondary activities is a standard indicator of economic development — developed economies have shifted further along the chain into tertiary and quaternary work, while developing countries still depend heavily on manufacturing for employment (NCERT pp. 36–37).
- **Cottage to large-scale continuum:** Cottage/household manufacturing (artisans at home using simple tools and family labour) → small-scale workshops (semi-skilled labour, simple power-driven machines outside the home) → large-scale factories (assembly line, advanced technology, mass production, vast capital). The continuum is used by NCERT (Fig. 5.2 a-b) to depict how the same product — a clay pot or a bamboo basket — moves from individual artisanship to industrial output (NCERT pp. 39–41).
- **Locational logic — weight-losing vs weight-gaining industries:** Industries that lose weight during processing (steel from iron ore, cement from limestone, sugar from cane) locate close to raw materials because transporting bulky inputs is more expensive than transporting the finished product. Industries that gain weight during processing (soft-drink bottling, brewing) locate closer to markets. Industries that are footloose — components light, ubiquitous and not weight-changing — locate by road accessibility. NCERT lays this out under "Access to Raw Material" (p. 38).
- **Traditional vs modern industrial regions:** NCERT identifies two broad types — (i) traditional large-scale industrial regions concentrated in developed countries (e.g., the Ruhr in Germany, north-eastern USA, the Midlands in UK) where heavy industries cluster around coal and ports; (ii) high-technology large-scale industrial regions that have diffused even to less developed countries — Silicon Valley (San Francisco),

Silicon Forest (Seattle), Bangalore, Hsinchu — built on R&D, knowledge inputs and venture capital rather than raw materials (NCERT p. 41).

- **Public, private, joint and co-operative ownership in India:** Public sector — SAIL, Coal India, NTPC; Private sector — Reliance Industries, Tata Steel (now privatised); Joint sector — Maruti Suzuki (originally a joint stock of GoI and Suzuki Motor Corp); Co-operative — AMUL (dairy), IFFCO (fertiliser), Sugar Co-operatives of Maharashtra. NCERT lists the four ownership types in Fig. 5.1 and uses Indian and global examples in the surrounding text (NCERT p. 42).

2.2 Definitions to memorise

Term	Definition	Page
Secondary activities	Activities that add value to natural resources by transforming raw materials into valuable products; cover manufacturing, processing and construction	36
Manufacturing	Process of transforming raw materials into finished goods of higher value for sale in local or distant markets; literally "to make by hand" but now includes goods made by machines	36-37
Industry	A geographically located manufacturing unit maintaining books of accounts and records under a management system	37
Mechanisation	Using gadgets to accomplish tasks	37
Automation	Advanced stage of mechanisation; production without aid of human thinking, using feedback and closed-loop computer control systems	37
Agglomeration economies	Savings derived from linkages between different industries when located near a leader-industry	38
Footloose industries	Industries not tied to any specific raw material, depending on widely available components, small in output and labour, generally non-polluting, located mainly by road accessibility	38
Cottage/household industry	Smallest manufacturing unit using local raw material, simple tools, family or part-time labour, with low commercial significance	40
Small-scale industry	Manufacturing in a workshop outside the home using local raw material, simple power-driven machines and semi-skilled labour	40
Large-scale industry	Manufacturing with large market, varied raw materials, enormous energy, specialised workers, advanced technology, assembly-line mass production and large capital	40
Agri-business	Commercial farming on an industrial scale financed by businesses outside agriculture, mechanised and chemical-reliant; "agro-factories"	41

Term	Definition	Page
Basic industries	Industries whose products are used as raw materials by other industries (e.g. iron and steel)	42
Consumer goods (non-basic) industries	Industries producing goods consumed directly — bread, biscuits, tea, soaps, paper, televisions	42
High-technology industry	Latest generation of manufacturing based on intensive R&D, advanced scientific/engineering products, dominated by white-collar professionals	42
Technopolies	High-tech industries that are regionally concentrated, self-sustained and highly specialised (Silicon Valley, Silicon Forest)	42-43
Weight-losing industry	Industry whose finished product weighs less than its raw material; locates near the raw-material source (steel, sugar, cement)	38
Specialisation of skills	Division of labour where each worker performs only one task repeatedly, lowering cost and raising output	36–37
Standardisation	Production of identical units to a uniform specification on an assembly line	37
Agro-based industry	Manufacturing that uses agricultural inputs — sugar, edible oil, cotton textile, tea, coffee, rubber	41
Ferrous industry	Mineral-based industry using iron and steel	41
Non-ferrous industry	Mineral-based industry using copper, aluminium, gems, jewellery	41
Chemical-based industry	Industry using salts, sulphur, potash, synthetic fibre, plastic, petrochemicals	42
Forest-based industry	Industry using timber, lac, paper, turpentine	42
Animal-based industry	Industry using leather, wool, ivory	42
Joint sector	Ownership shared between private investors and the state — joint stock companies	42

2.3 Diagrams / processes to remember

- **Fig. 5.1 Classification of Industries (p. 39):** master tree branching on four bases — Size (Cottage/Household → Artifacts; Small Scale; Large Scale); Inputs/Raw Materials (Agro-based → sugar, edible oil, cotton textile, coffee, tea, rubber; Mineral based → Metallic [Ferrous: iron and steel; Non-ferrous: copper, aluminium, gems, jewellery] and Non-Metallic [cement, pottery]; Chemical based → petrochemical, plastic, synthetic fibre, salts, chemical fertilisers; Forest based → timber, lac, turpentine, paper; Animal based → leather, wool); Output/Product (Basic → iron and steel; Consumer goods → biscuits, textiles, vehicles such as cars, scooters, cycles); Ownership (Public, Private, Joint).

- **Fig. 5.2(a) p. 40:** household industry — man making pots in his courtyard in Nagaland.
- **Fig. 5.2(b) p. 40:** man weaving a bamboo basket by the roadside in Arunachal Pradesh (cottage industry).
- **Fig. 5.3 p. 40:** products of cottage industry on sale in Assam.
- **Fig. 5.4 p. 41:** Passenger car assembly line at a Motor Company plant in Japan (large-scale).
- **Fig. 5.5 p. 41:** Tea Garden and a Tea Factory in the Nilgiri Hills, Tamil Nadu (agro-based).
- **Fig. 5.6 p. 42:** A pulp mill in the heart of the Ketchikan's timber area of Alaska (forest-based).
- **Process chain to remember:** iron/steel (basic) → machines for textile industry → clothes for consumers (NCERT §Output, p. 42).

2.5 Key data / anchor table (NCERT data points and pairings to memorise)

#	Topic	Anchor	NCERT page
1	Share of world's land under major modern manufacturing concentrations	<10%	37
2	American corn-belt comparison (2.5 sq km)	4 large farms with 10–20 workers vs several large factories with thousands	37
3	Seven location factors of industry	Market, raw material, labour, energy, transport, govt policy, agglomeration	37–38
4	Weight-losing industries (raw-material locations)	Steel, sugar, cement	38
5	Perishable raw-material industries (locate at source)	Dairy products	38
6	Energy-intensive industry	Aluminium	38
7	Footloose industry locator factor	Road network accessibility	38
8	Size-based industry classes	Cottage / Small-scale / Large-scale	39–40
9	Input-based industry classes	Agro / Mineral (ferrous & non-ferrous & non-metallic) / Chemical / Forest / Animal	41–42
10	Output-based industry classes	Basic vs Consumer goods	42
11	Ownership-based industry classes	Public / Private / Joint / Co-operative	42
12	Example of basic industry	Iron and steel	42

#	Topic	Anchor	NCERT page
13	Examples of consumer goods	Bread, biscuits, tea, soaps, paper, televisions	42
14	High-tech regions (Technopolies)	Silicon Valley (San Francisco), Silicon Forest (Seattle)	42–43
15	Period of large-scale manufacturing emergence	Last 200 years (UK, NE USA, Europe)	40

2.4 Common confusions / NTA trap points

- "Manufacturing" vs "manufacturing industry": NTA often distractors with the literal "to make by hand". Remember entertainment and tourism are also secondary activities, so the longer "manufacturing industry" is preferred (p. 37).
- Mechanisation vs Automation: automation is the advanced stage of mechanisation; it operates without human thinking through closed-loop computer control. Students slip by treating them as synonyms (p. 37).
- Footloose vs weight-losing industries: footloose are NOT tied to specific raw materials and depend on road accessibility; cement, sugar and steel (weight-losing) are NOT footloose. Textbook Exercise 1(i) flags the wrong statement that "sugar, cotton textiles and vegetable oils are footloose" — these are agro-based, raw-material oriented (pp. 38, 43).
- Basic vs consumer goods industries: iron and steel = basic (raw material for others); biscuits, textiles, soaps = consumer. Trap: NTA may plant "cottage" or "footloose" as the answer to "produces raw materials for other industries" — only "basic" is correct (p. 42).
- Ownership types: capitalist economies → privately owned; socialist → state-owned; mixed → both. Joint sector ≠ purely public or purely private (p. 42).
- High-tech indicator: white-collar professionals OUTNUMBER blue-collar production workers; landscape is dispersed office-plant-lab buildings, NOT massive assembly structures (p. 42).
- Technopolies are regionally concentrated, self-sustained and highly specialised — Silicon Valley (San Francisco) and Silicon Forest (Seattle). Do not confuse "Silicon Forest" with Silicon Valley.
- **Specialisation vs standardisation:** Specialisation is the division of labour where each worker performs only one task; standardisation is the uniformity of output to a single specification. NTA often presents one definition under the other label.
- **Cottage industry ≠ small-scale industry:** Cottage = at home with family labour and simple tools; Small-scale = in a workshop outside the home with semi-skilled labour and simple power-driven machines. The two are NOT synonyms.

- **Agglomeration economies vs urbanisation economies:** Agglomeration economies are savings from inter-industry linkages around a leader-industry (a steel plant attracts engineering, chemical and transport firms). NTA sometimes substitutes "economies of scale" — which is internal to one firm, not external.
- **Capitalist vs socialist ownership:** Capitalist economies are dominated by private ownership; socialist economies by state ownership. Joint sector means joint stock or public-private combinations. India, with a mixed economy, has all four forms.
- **High-tech industries are NOT located by raw material:** NCERT explicitly identifies R&D, skilled labour pools and information networks as their drivers — not iron, coal or limestone.

🎯 Practice MCQs

📊 PYQ Alignment

This chapter is a high-yield CUET source: questions on definitions of secondary activities, footloose industries, basic vs consumer goods, factors of industrial location (weight-losing, perishability, agglomeration), classification of industries (Fig. 5.1), high-tech/technopolies (Silicon Valley/Silicon Forest), and ownership types (public/private/joint) recur every year — typically ~6-8 MCQs across CUET 2023-25 with a strong tilt towards statement-based and match-the-following formats lifted directly from NCERT phrasing. The full CUET PYQ archive on secondary activities is at `/pyq/geography`.

CUET 2025 — Actual PYQs from this chapter

Q.6 (CUET 2025) _____ add value to natural resources by transforming raw materials into valuable products.

- A) Secondary activities B) Tertiary activities C) Quaternary activities D) Culinary activities Tests: Definition of secondary activities (manufacturing) Answer: Not in extracted key

Q.7 (CUET 2025) Modern large-scale manufacturing does not have the following characteristic:

- A) Specialisation of skills B) Technological innovation C) Mechanisation D) Low level capital investment Tests: Characteristics of modern large-scale manufacturing Answer: Not in extracted key

CUET 2024 — Actual PYQs from this chapter

Q.25 (CUET 2024) Small scale manufacturing and cottage industries differ on the basis of _____.

- A) Raw materials B) Quantity of production C) Production techniques D) Scale of profits Tests: Distinction between cottage and small-scale manufacturing Answer: Not in extracted key

Q.26 (CUET 2024) Which is NOT a feature of small scale manufacturing?

- A) Semi-skilled labour B) Raises purchasing power C) Production at home by family labour D) Labour intensive Tests: Features of small-scale manufacturing Answer: Not in extracted key

Q.27 (CUET 2024) Feature of cottage industry:

- A) Advanced technology B) Specialized workers C) Products consumed in same household D) Mass production Tests: Features of cottage industry Answer: Not in extracted key

Q.28 (CUET 2024) Large scale manufacturing is NOT _____.

- A) Capital intensive B) Energy intensive C) Technology intensive D) Labour intensive Tests: Characteristics of large-scale manufacturing Answer: Not in extracted key

Q.29 (CUET 2024) Which is NOT a product of cottage industry?

- A) Mat B) Shoes C) Car D) Basket Tests: Typical products of cottage industries Answer: Not in extracted key

CUET 2023 — Actual PYQs from this chapter

Q.7 (CUET 2023) Which industry is NOT dependent on any specific raw material?

- A) Cottage industries B) Foot loose industries C) Manufacturing industries D) Agro-based industries Tests: Footloose industries — locational flexibility Answer: Not in extracted key