

Economic & Resource Geography

(AN INTRODUCTION)

ECONOMIC
GEOGRAPHY

Geography analyses & explains variations in activities over space. Economic Geography studies the Economic system in different regions of the world. According to ^{Richard} Hartshorn,

Agriculture
Pastoral
Mining
Industry
etc.

"Economic Geography is the study of the spatial variations of activities related to production, exchange & consumption of Goods & Services".

E.W. Zimmermann pointed out that,

"Economic Geography deals with the economic life of (Human) man with relation to environment".

⇒ Economic Geography first originated in the form of "Commercial Geography" through the publication of the book named "Geographie des Welthandels" written by Andree in 1862. In 1932, Gotz (German) was first treated Economic Geography in a different sense from Commercial Geography. He defined, "Economic Geography makes a scientific investigation of Nature of world areas in their direct influence on the production of Goods".

⇒ An economic-geographical approach puts spatial concepts such as → space, place & scale at the centre of the analysis →

• Space → The concept of space refers to physical distance & area. It allows us to ask

"WHERE" a particular process is happening? Map provides the answer to this question. The idea of pattern @ distribution may facilitate the concept of location.

• Place → The concept of place aims to capture the specificity @ uniqueness of particular places that are carved out of space. Through the notion of place, geographers are able to explore the richness & complexity of particular places & economic processes which are always embedded in environmental, social, cultural, institutional & political contexts. Then in terms of these characteristics a geographer finally decides where to draw the boundary of the distinctive region of his map.

• Scale → The concept of scale therefore helps us to organise places through a typology of spatial scales (global, macro-regional, national, local etc.).

So, fundamentally, the Economic Geography is concerned with the spatial organization of economic system, with →

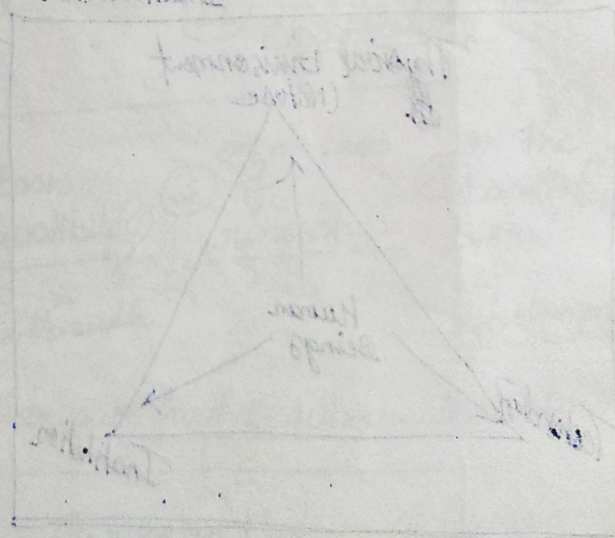
- WHERE the various elements of the system located,
- HOW they are connected together in space and
- SPATIAL IMPACT of economic processes.

on the basis of this, Economic Geography are interested in three interconnected questions →

- 1) In what ways are economic activities organised spatially on the Earth's surface & how they changed over time?
- 2) Why the economic activities organised spatially in particular ways & what are the underlying processes at work? and,
- 3) How does the spatial organization of economic activities itself influence economic & other social processes?

In that way, The following 3 main techniques of ~~resource~~ resource use and human economic works →

- Resource Exploitation techniques, by which all types of Natural & organic resources are exploited & produced. (Biological)
- Resource Transformation techniques, by which ~~through refining and transforming~~ natural & biological resources converted into various productive & consumption items i.e. Steel from Iron etc.
- Intervening space Adjustment techniques (such as transport, communication etc);



- Nature
- Technology
- Institutions

Human beings interact with nature through their activities and create institutions to coordinate their economic development which includes knowledge & human capital. In the world & human capital, if one of them conditions is not satisfied, a particular structure cannot be called as human capital. For instance - with