

**GRADE : VIII**

**SUBJECT: Social Studies and population Education**

## READING SECTION:

### LESSON 1: We, Our Community and Our Nation

#### Nepal at a Glance

- **Official Name** – Federal Democratic Republic of Nepal
- **Physical Location** – North Temperate zone of the world  
Latitude -  $26^{0}22'$  N to  $30^{0}27'$  N  
Longitude -  $80^{0}4'$  E to  $88^{0}12'$  E
- **Border** – China's autonomous province Tibet in the north and India in the east, west and south
- **Area** – 1,47,181 sq. km.
- **Share in World's Area** – 0.03%
- **Share in Asia's Area** – 0.3%

- **Length (*East – West*)** – 885 km
- **Width (*North – South*)** – 193 km (average)
- **Highest Point** – Mount Everest, Solukhumbu (*8848 m. from sea level*)
- **Lowest Point** – Mushaharnia, Dhanusha (*59 m. from sea level*)
- **Physical Division** – Himalayan (Mountain) Region – northern mountainous areas with Himalayan Ranges Hilly Region – mid hilly area with Mahabharat Ranges and Chure Ranges Terai Region – southern areas with plain land.
- **Political Division** –
  - ✓ **35** units during Rana Regime by Rana Prime Minister Bir Shumsher
  - ✓ **14** zones and **75** districts in **2018 BS** (1<sup>st</sup> Baishakh) by King Mahendra
  - ✓ **4** Development Regions (EDR, CDR, WDR & FWDR) in **2029 BS** and **5** Development Regions (adding MWDR) in **2037 BS** by King Birendra
  - ✓ **7** provinces and **77** districts (splitting Nawalparasi into Nawalpur & Parasi and Rukum into East Rukum & West Rukum) in **2072 BS** (3<sup>rd</sup> Ashwin)
  - ✓ **753** local levels (including **6** metropolises, **11** sub-metropolises, **276** municipalities and **460** rural municipalities i.e. gaupalikas)

➤ **Government –**

- ✓ Federal/Central Government – at the central capital of the country
- ✓ State Government – at every provinces
- ✓ Local Government – at local level

➤ **Population Statistics –**

- ✓ Total Population (Census 2068 BS) – 2,64,94,504
- ✓ Male Population – 1,29,27,431 (48.56%)
- ✓ Female Population – 1,36,93,378 (51.44%)
- ✓ Rural Population (in %) – 82.9%
- ✓ Urban Population (in %) – 17.1%
- ✓ Population Density (per sq. km) – 180
- ✓ Literacy Rate – 65.9%
- ✓ (*Male – 71.6%, Female – 44.5%*)
- ✓ Life Expectancy – 66 years
- ✓ (*Male – 64.94 years, Female – 67.44 years*)
- ✓ Population Growth Rate – 1.35%

- ✓ Total Languages spoken in the country - 123
- ✓ Official Language – Nepali
- ✓ Other Major Languages – Maithali, Bhojpuri, Tharu, Tamang, Newari, etc.
- ✓ Total No. of Tribes – 125
- ✓ Some Major Tribes – Chhetri (16.6%), Brahmin (12.2%), Magar (7.3%), Tharu (6.6%), etc.
- ✓ Total Religions followed - 10
- ✓ Major Religions – Hinduism (81.3%), Buddhism (9%), Islam (4.4%), Kiratism (3.0%), etc.
- ✓ Major Economic Activities – Agriculture, Trade, Industry, Service, etc.

### **Development**

- ✓ Any positive change that improves the quality of life is known as development.
- ✓ Development is a continuous process which helps to lead a society forward and become more advanced.
- ✓ A society needs to utilize its means and resources effectively and efficiently in order to facilitate the process of development.
- ✓ Hardworking, honest and active human power can speed up the development of a society by the proper utilization of raw materials and finance.

- The three major types of resources needed for development are –
- ✓ **Natural Resources** – *water, air, herbs, hills, mountains, minerals, etc.*
- ✓ **Human Resources** – *skilled, semi-skilled and un-skilled*
- ✓ **Financial Resources** – *capital, currency, investment, income, financial system, etc.*

## A. Answer the following questions:

1. Write a letter to your foreign pen pal describing him/her about our country Nepal.
2. Draw two outline maps of Nepal and show the following using different colours.
  - a. *Three Physical Regions*
  - b. *Seven Provinces with their headquarters*
3. Describe the population statistics of Nepal according to the census of 2011 AD in brief.
4. What do you understand by development? What should be done to make Nepal a developed country? Write in points.
5. Write down the different types of resources and also explain how they affect the development process.
6. Name all the metropolitan cities and sub-metropolitan cities of our country. (*consult atlas book or any website for your easiness*)

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