In present times, our life has become very unstable because of race of development. There are many reasons for which we have to go from one place to another. Travelling done for objectives like entertainment, pleasure of seeing natural scenery, historical sites, cultural observation, religious tours, education, sports, health, office work, trade, conferences, expeditions, family work etc. is called Tourism. So, we can say that Tourist is a person who goes somewhere else away from his daily living place, for some time, to reside there temporarily and return back to his original residence after fulfilling his objective.

Our Rajasthan is famous for tourism not only in India but in the whole world. It is assumed that every third tourist coming to India, visits Rajasthan. Physical features like desert and Aravalies, wild life, prestigious history of historical events, fairs, architecture, cultural diversities etc. always attract tourists in Rajasthan. This is the reason why this state is one of the major tourist states of India. Tourist came here to learn and know about folk music, dance, art and various cultural diversities etc.

We get tired and bored by doing daily routine job living at a same place. To get rid of this and to fill life again with enthusiasm, humans tend to go to other place away from their original residence. For our mental satisfaction and recreation, travelling to enjoy natural beauty, to sport, to meet new people and to know their culture, life style and cuisine etc., changes our stress into pleasure. Many questions arise in our mind before going to a new place, like how will we travel to that place? Where will we reside there? Who will help us? But we need not worry about these questions because various modes of transportation, guides, restaurants etc. are available to help us and make our tour enjoyable.

We have various benefits through tourism. Tourism is an important source of income, that's why we always encourage tourists in our country to earn foreign currency. Increase in Jobs related to tourism like hotels & restaurant ownership, workers, guides, taxi drivers, transport agents, traders, industries etc. is also a major benefit of tourism. Besides this tourism, which is our cultural heritage, gets protection & publicity. To attract foreign tourists in our country government has launched a programme named 'Atulya Bharat'. To encourage tourism in Rajasthan, government established Rajasthan Tourism and Development Corporation (R.T.D.C) in 1979. It also introduced slogans like 'Padharo Mare Desh', 'Rangilo Rajasthan', 'Suranga Rajasthan' etc. 'Incredible state of India' is the tourism symbol of Rajasthan.
Major Tourist Destinations of Rajasthan

For the ease of tourists, Rajasthan is divided into different tourist circuits. In which Jaipur-Amer circuit, Maru circuit and Mewar circuit are more important where the number of local & foreign tourists is more. Important tourist places of Rajasthan can be divided into three parts- Historical, Geographical and Religious tourist places.

Tourism logo
Historical Tourist Places

History of Rajasthan is very glorious, and that is why in every part of state tourist places of historical importance are found. Kalibanga and Pilibanga in Hanumangarh, Aahad in Udaipur, Bairath in Jaipur and Ganeshwar Temple in Sikar are famous tourist archaeological sites. Hawa Mahal of Jaipur, Amer Fort, Jantar Mantar, Vijaystambh and Kirtistambh of Chittorgarh, Sajjangarh fort and City Palace of Udaipur, Mehrangarh Fort of Jodhpur, Sonargarh Fort of Jaisalmer etc. are important historical tourist sites of Rajasthan. Detailed study of all these places is available in History books.

Let us do
Make a list and Collect information regarding historical sites of your district.

Natural Tourist Places

In between geographical features and natural sceneries of Rajasthan, Sand dunes of Jaisalmer (Dhore); Jaisalmand, Fatehsagar, Pichola, Udaisagar etc. lakes and Shilpgram of Lake City Udaipur; famous Hill Station of Sirohi Mt. Abu and Nakki Lake; Pushkar Lake of Ajmer; Rajsamand Lake of Rajasamand district; Chulia and Menal waterfall of Chittorgarh; Ranthambore National Park of Sawai Madhopur; Sariska National Park of Alwar; Kevladeo Ghana National Bird Sanctuary of Bharatpur; Desert National Park of Jaisalmer and Barmer district; On the shore of Chambal river conservation of Crocodiles and Alligators in Chambal sanctuary are important.

Let us do
Make a list and collect information regarding Geographical Tourist Sites of your district.
Religious Tourist Places

There is great importance of religion in rituals and folk culture of Rajasthan. Pilgrim sites are important tourist centers of the state. Brahma Temple (Pushkar), Khwaja Moinuddin Chisti Dargah of (Ajmer), Kolayat (Bikaner), Ramdevra (Jaisalmer), Srinath Temple of Nathdwara (Rajsamand), Ekling ji Temple (Udaipur), Govind Dev Ji (Jaipur), Karnimata in Deshnok (Bikaner), Shri Mahaveer Ji (Sawaimadhopur), Tripura Sundari (Banswara) etc. are important religious tourist places of Rajasthan state. Jain Temples like Hrishabhdev (Udaipur), Ranakpur (Pali) and Delwada (Sirohi) also attracts tourists. Tourism is the main source of employment of Rajasthan.

Let us do

Make a list and collect information regarding religious tourist places of your district.

Development of Tourism

Besides establishing Rajasthan Tourism Development Corporation in state, to promote tourism it was given the status of industry in 1989. Tourism is a service sector industry. For development of tourism, hotel construction and paying guest Policy is enforced. Reservation for transportation, guide, taxi and information regarding important tourist places are available on internet for tourists. Effort have been made to connect important tourist centers through roads, railways and airways. Royal trains like “Royal Rajasthan on Wheels” provides transportation to important tourists places. Equipped with all ultra modern facilities this royal train attracts native and foreign tourists. Starting from Delhi this train passes through Jodhpur, Chittorgarh, Udaipur, Jaipur, Ranthambore and then goes to Madhya Pradesh and Uttar Pradesh. Availability of travelling facilities, art, folk dance, folk song, traditional attire etc. plays important role in development of tourism in the state.
Royal Rajasthan on wheels

**Let us do**
To encourage tourism in Rajasthan various carnivals are organized. With the help of magazines and your teachers collect information regarding these carnivals.

**Meaning of Transportation and their types**
For the socio-economic development of any region, development of basic infrastructure (like industry, communication, electricity, transportation and other economic activities) is very important. So, for the development, transportation is also an important pillar. In modern times growth of means of transportation in itself is the symbol of economic development and prosperity.

**Do you know**
According to Rajasthan Road Vision 2025, in the first quarter of this century, the quality of Roads will be maintained by its extension and maintenance. To achieve this there are plans to build express highways, flyovers, ring roads to connect big cities and roads to connect all villages.

Now the question arises what is transportation? Exchange of human, goods and thoughts from one place to another is called Transportation. We can understand the importance of transportation from the fact that they are called 'blood veins' of a region. Humans can't fulfill their necessities without transportation. Delivery of raw goods to factories and finished goods to consumer cannot be possible without transportation. Perishable goods will not get their desirable value as they will become useless without proper transportation. Therefore transportation is a service which can be called “Life Line” of economic and social set up.

Roads, railways and airways are important mode of transportation in Rajasthan. Also through pipe lines, liquid and gaseous things are transported from one place to another. Water supplied in our home through pipe line is an example of this type of transportation. Chances of development of water transportation are very less in our state because the state boundaries do not reach the oceans and the river are seasonal. Therefore, sailing of ships is difficult in them.
Road Transportation

Road transportation has developed most in Rajasthan. Maximum transportation in Rajasthan is done through roads. In rural areas roads are the only important means of transport. In last few decades development of roads has been done at a fast pace which still continues. In state roads are classified into National Highways, State Highways, District Roads, Rural Roads etc. Under 'Pradhanmantri Grameen Sadak Nirman Pariyojana' different villages are connected by roads.

Many National Highways cross our state. National Highway no.8 is the most busiest and important Highway. This highway passing from the middle of Rajasthan connects Delhi to Mumbai. National Highway No.15 is the longest highway of state which lies in western border areas of Rajasthan. National Highway no.14 and 15 connects our state to Kandla port of Gujarat.

Let us do
1. Which are the other important national Highways of Rajasthan? Find out with the help of your teacher and the transportation map & show in an outline map.
2. List and collect information about the National highways/ state highways passing through your district.

Road Safety

In the morning while reading the newspaper with a cup of tea, we come to know that in a road accident many people died. This implies that we have made some mistake while driving. You might have heard the proverb which states that accident happened if you are not alert. Therefore we have to remain cautious while we are on road and the traffic signs on the road sides & traffic rules should be kept in mind:

- Use Zebra crossing while crossing roads.
- Drive vehicles within speed limit.
- Do not drive after drinking liquor.
- Follow traffic lights.
- Drive in a prescribed lane.
- Use indicator while turning your vehicle on road.
- Use helmet on two wheelers and seat belt in four wheelers.
- Overtake cautiously from right side.
• Do not talk with others or on mobile which driving.
• Use indicator and dipper while driving at night.
• Do not play loud music in vehicles
• Keep proper distance from other vehicle while driving etc.

**Bharatmala Pariyojana**

For the development of roads in our country Indian Government has announced a new project “Bharatmala Pariyojana”. In this programme development of thousands of kilometers of roads has been proposed in Rajasthan along with all Border States of India namely Punjab, Jammu& Kashmir, Himachal Pradesh, Uttarakhand, Uttar Pradesh, Bihar, Sikkim, Assam, Arunachal Pradesh, Manipur and Mizoram. Due to strategic importance about 1500 Kilometre road of this programme will pass from Rajasthan border (Pakistan).

**Let us do**

In political outline map of India mark states through which Bharatmala roads are crossing.

**Rail Transportation**

For transportation of large quantity and heavy goods, for long distances on land, rail transportation is the cheapest and best means of transportation. In India the first train ran in 1853 between Mumbai and Thane of Maharashtra. After that in other state also slowly development of railways started. In Rajasthan first train ran between Bandikui (Dausa) and Agra Fort (Uttar Pradesh) in 1874. From that time onwards there is a continuous development of railways in the state. Length of railway line in the state is about 6000 kilometer. Rail transportation in Rajasthan is included in North Western Railway Zone, the headquarter of which is in Jaipur. Being the capital city, Jaipur is also the largest centre of railways in the state. Metro train started in June 2015 in Jaipur for best urban transportation.

Rail transportation has developed comparatively less in Rajasthan because of desert and mountain topography in maximum area. But due to availability of minerals and growing industries there are better prospect of development of railways in the state.

**Let us do**

Make a list of railway lines and railway stations of your district.

**Air Transportation**

This is the costliest and fastest means of transportation which is good for valuable and perishable goods. Because of large cost this type of transportation is comparatively less developed. Efforts are being made currently to develop facilities of air transport due to industrialization and development taking place in different
Jaipur International Airport situated in Saganer is the busiest and first International airport of the state. 'Maharana Pratap Airport' is situated in Dabok in Udaipur. An airport of Military and Civil importance is also located in Ratanada in Jodhpur. Airports are being made in Ajmer and Jaisalmer also.

Jaipur International Airport

Glossary

Sanctuary : Interference free residential forest area for wild animals
Architecture : Art of building structures.
National Highway : Roads under central government
State Highway : Roads under state government
Metro train : Local rail transportation of big cities

Exercise

1. Choose the correct option-
   1. Brahma temple in Rajasthan is located in......
      (a) Ajmer (b) Pushkar (c) Pali (d) Karauli ( )
   2. Jaisalmand Lake is situated in which district?
      (a) Udaipur (b) Chittorgarh (c) Barmer (d) Jalore ( )
2. Fill in the blanks-
   (a) In Jaipur for better urban traffic ............ started in June 2015.
   (b) While crossing roads use ..............crossing.
   (c) Tourism is a ..............industry.
   (d) Kevladeo Ghana Bird Sanctuary is located in ..............district.
3. Where is the first international airport of Rajasthan?
4. When and where did the first train run in Rajasthan?
5. What is Bharatmala Project? Explain.
6. What is Tourism? Explain its economic importance?
7. Which are the major tourist centers of Rajasthan.
8. Write a note on Road Transportation in Rajasthan.