***INTRODUCTION, SCOPE AND APPROACHES***

* **DEFINITION;**

The study of man and his economic activities under varies set of

Conditions is known as economic geography.

Economic geography is also defined as the study of how countries

Make money, spend their money and also how that affects the world

In which we live.

Economic geography basically includes thee study of following

Components;

Production of goods

Consumption of goods

Exchange of goods

Distribution of goods

It also concerns by determining of prices and distribution of income.

* **SCOPE OF ECONOMIC GEOGRAPHY:**

The scope of economic geography is wide because the activity of man is ever changing. The main objective of economic geography is to discuss the activity of man with relation to environment as the activity of man depends upon the;

Natural environment and the availability of resources and the culture of that particular area. But on the other hand, the natural environment, culture and resources are not same throughout the world and these are changing from time to time. Therefore, the scope of economic geography is quite vast in both the temporal and the spatial terms.

1. Today economic geography is a very quantitative field that mainly Focus On topics such as distribution of business, market researchand the regional and global development.
2. Economic geography is also used in GIS (geographic informationSystem) to conduct research on markets and in the demand and Supply of the required product for an area.
3. It is also widely used for the extraction of resources and the use of such resources for the benefit.
4. Economic geography is also largely concerned with the traditional Economic geographic issues of the regional and the urban development, location of economy activity, labor market outcomes.
5. Mostly it is used in the developed nations such as united nation but also used in developing nations because there is lack of methods of development.
6. The GDP and GNP is considered in economic geography as it concerned with the globalization and connects much of the World’s economy.
7. Economic geography is mostly used in the research projects also in the collection of data during censes so there for it is deeply rooted in geography.

**APPROACHES OF ECONOMIC GEOGRAPHY:**

Basically there are three main approaches of economic

Geography that are stated as following;

* Traditional approach
* Philosophical approach
* Modern approach

These approaches of economic geography are explained below as;

*TRADITIONAL APPROCH;*

This approach provides a systematic description and interpretation of world distribution Pattern of a Commodity and analysis of facts at specific time.

This approach is further categorized as;

1. Regional approach; The word region is very popular in geographic literature and refer to sustainable area e.g climatic region, industrial region, administrative region, agricultural region etc. Regional approach is the study of the specific region or area that gives a better knowledge of different parts of unit.
2. Commodity approach; it provides a systematic description and interpretation of the world distribution pattern of a commodity like wheat rice cotton etc. it analyse the whole sequence of the development and catches them on the march to progression or regression.
3. Principle Approach;In this approach generalizations are made about Man and his Environment on the basis of analysis of facts at a specific time period. This approach provide an advantage as it provides analytical method which promotes critical acumen. It is also involved in the systematic study of and commodity approaches to provide indication of a generalized result.

*PHILOSOPHICAL APPROCH;*Philosophical approach deals with geographic methodology in general and scientific methods broadly related issues such as the perception andrepresentation of space and place.

This approach is further categorized as;

1. Positivism approach; It employs the scientific method to interpret and understand issues in economic geography. It involves informing hypothesis testing leading to empirical generalizations and law-like statements. Positivism is a philosophical system deeply rooted in science and mathematics. It’s based on the view that whatever exists can be verified through experiments, observation, and mathematical/logical proof. Everything else is nonexistent. In addition, positivists usually believe that scientific progress will eradicate, or at least sharply reduce, the problems facing mankind.
2. STRUCTURALISM; According to this approach the structure of an economy cannot be directly observed but in oder to observe different ideas and theories are developed to understand what we see and experience also the debates are made to achieve better understanding.
3. HUMANISM; It is the study of positivism and structuralism collectively in oder to view the response of peoples to spatial and structural forces. It is also relates to the humanistic approach.

*MODREN APPROCH; In modern approach the new ways of thinking and problem solving are made that integrates geographic information.*

This approach is further categorized as;

1. System Analysis; it is involves the study in steps by involving the formal and informal systems. System analysis is an approach methodology rather than a philosophy or scientific paradigm.
2. Behavioral Approach;In economic geography behavioral approach now has become very common. Economic geographers study the overall results of economically-oriented behavior as they appear in the landscape. In economic geography, the study of decision-making process is an important aspect. Behavioral geographers focus on the cognitive processes underlying spatial reasoning, decision making, and behavior
3. *Institutional Approach;*Ron Martin (2003) has emphasized the need of institutional approach in economic geography. He stated that the form and evolution of the economic landscape cannot be fully understood without giving due attention to the various social institutions on which economic activity depends and through which it is shaped. In other words, economic activity is socially and institutionally situated and it cannot be explained by reference to atomistic individual motives alone, but has to be understood as enmeshed in wider structures of social, economic and political rules, procedures and conventions. It is the role of these systems, both formal and informal, which is the focus of an institutional approach to economic geography