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Optical amplifiers (OAs) are essential components for developing a long-haul optical transmission system. Recently, a research project has been actively conducted to develop space division multiplexing (SDM) fibre transmission systems that use multi-core, multi-mode fibre, etc. A development effort is also made to fabricate optical fibre amplifiers (OFAs) that are necessary for extending the transmission distance, including a multi-core optical fibre amplifier, a few-mode optical fibre amplifier and a multi-core and few-mode optical fibre amplifier. This technical paper provides with a better understanding of OFAs for SDM fibre transmission systems.