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Economics

The Story of Village Palampur

Question 1.

What factors have led to the reduction of water level in Palampur?

Answer:

- Continuous use of groundwater for tubewell irrigation has reduced the water table below the ground.
- While environmental resources like soil fertility and groundwater are built-up over many years. So, once destroyed, it is very difficult to restore them.
- Misuse of groundwater is another important factor for lowering of water table.

Question 2.

Describe any three sources of irrigation in Palampur.

Answer:

- Persian wheel is the main source of irrigation in Palampur.
- Well is also a source of irrigation.
- Tubewells are also important sources of irrigation. These are run by electric supply.

Question 3.

State any two features of modern farming method.

Answer:

Its main features were:

- Use of tube wells for irrigation.
- Use of HYV seeds.
- Chemical fertilizers.
- Pesticides.
- Farm machinery such as tractors, threshers, etc. (any two)

Question 4.

Explain any two differences between physical capital and human capital.

Answer:

Differences:

- Physical capital has variety of inputs while human capital is labours, using those inputs.
- Physical capital includes tools, machines can be used over the years while human capital can produce output only if they have experience.

Question 5.

What is modern farming methods? Explain its drawbacks.

Answer:

It is a scientific way of increasing the production. Under this, production is increased by using HYV seeds and other inputs.

Drawbacks:

- It is used by rich farmers as it requires more inputs.
- Loss of soil fertility due to increased use of chemical fertilizers.
- Continuous use of groundwater for tubewell irrigation has reduced the water table below the ground.

Question 6.

Describe the role of the farmers after the crops are harvested and production is complete.

Answer:

Role of the Farmer:

- The farmers retain a part of the crop for their family consumption and sell the surplus in the market.
- The small farmers grow the crops just to fulfil the needs of the family. So, they do not have any surplus to sell in the market.
- The big farmers make big earnings by selling main crops in the market.
- They sell the crops and earn huge profit on them.

Question 7.

How many crops are grown by the farmers in Palampur? How are they able to grow these different crops in a year?

Answer:

(i) The farmers in Palampur grow jowar and bajra during the rainy season, potato between October and December and wheat in the winter season.

(ii) (a) There is the well-developed system of irrigation in Palampur that enables the farmers there to grow three different crops in a year.

(b) Electricity came early to Palampur. Its major impact was to transform the system of irrigation in the village.

(c) By mid-1970s, the entire area of 200 hectares was irrigated.

(d) Modern farming methods and the Green Revolution introduced HYV seeds.

Mr. Anant kumar