

Ch: AGRICULTURE

READ THE FOLLOWING SHORT TYPES QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS THOROUGHLY AND TRY TO UNDERSTAND AND WRITE IN YOUR H.W.COPY.

Question 1.

Write four points to stress the importance of agriculture in India. (2013)

Or, Why is India called an agriculturally important country? Write four supportive arguments.

Or, 'Agriculture has been the backbone of the Indian Economy' Explain the statement by giving reason. (2017 D)

Answer:

India is an agricultural country because of the following reasons:

1. Two-third of its population is engaged in agricultural activities which provide livelihood.
2. Agriculture is a primary activity and produces most of the food and foodgrains that we consume.
3. It produces raw materials for our various industries, e.g., cotton textile and sugar industry.
4. Some agricultural products, like tea, coffee and spices, are exported and earn foreign exchange.
5. The share of agriculture in providing employment and livelihood to the population continued to be as high as 63% in 2001.

Question 2.

Why do farming practices vary in different regions? Give three major reasons.

Answer:

Three major reasons are:

1. Physical environment, i.e., relief, soil and climate.
2. Technological know-how.
3. Socio-cultural practices.

Question 3.

Name some industries based on agricultural raw material.

Answer:

Cotton Textile Industry and Sugar Industry.

Question 4.

What factors does primitive subsistence farming depend on?

Answer:

Factors:

- Monsoons
- Natural fertility of the soil
- Suitability of other environmental conditions to the crops grown.

Question 5.

Write main characteristics of 'slash and burn' agriculture.

Or, Write main characteristics of Primitive Subsistence Farming.

Answer:

- This type of farming is practised in few pockets of India on small patches of land using primitive tools and family/community labour.
- Farmers clear a patch of land and produce cereals and other food crops to sustain their families.
- When the soil fertility decreases, the farmers shift and clear a fresh patch of land for cultivation. This type of shifting allows nature to replenish the fertility of the soil through natural processes.
- Land productivity is low as the farmer does not use fertilisers or other modern inputs.

Question 6.

Name some primitive tools used in 'slash and burn' agriculture.

Answer:

Tools like hoe, dao and digging sticks.

Question 7.

Compare 'intensive subsistence farming' with that of 'commercial farming' practiced in India.

Answer:

Intensive Subsistence Farming	Commercial Farming
(i) In this type of farming, production is mainly for self consumption.	(i) In this, crops are mainly grown for commercial purposes.

(ii) It is practised in areas of high population pressure on land.	(ii) It is practiced on large pieces of land on scientific and commercial lines.
(iii) It is labour intensive farming.	(iii) In this type of agriculture, machines and modern technology are used.
(iv) In this, high doses of biochemical inputs and irrigation are used for obtaining higher production.	(iv) There is higher use of modern agricultural inputs, for example, High Yielding Variety (HYV) seeds, fertilisers, irrigation, etc. are used to obtain higher yields and production.
(v) Farmers take maximum output from the limited land by raising 2-3 crops in a year from the same land, i.e., multiple cropping is practised.	(v) The degree of commercialization varies from one region to another. Rice is a commercial crop in Punjab, while in Orissa it is subsistence crop. For example, Plantation agriculture.

Question 8.

Write the main characteristics of intensive subsistence farming.

Answer:

1. It is practised in areas of high population pressure on land.
2. It is labour intensive farming.
3. Yield per hectare is high because high doses of biochemical inputs and irrigation are used.
4. The size of the land-holdings is small and uneconomical.
5. Farmers take maximum output from the limited land by raising 2-3 crops in a year from the same land, i.e., multiple cropping is practised.

Question 9.

What are the major differences between primitive subsistence farming and commercial farming? (2013)

Answer:

Primitive Subsistence Farming	Commercial Farming
1. In this mainly cereals and other food crops are grown by farmers to sustain themselves.	1. In this, crops are mainly grown for commercial purposes.
2. It is generally done on small land holdings which are economically not viable.	2. It is practiced on large pieces of land on scientific and commercial lines.

3. Primitive tools and animals are used for carrying out agricultural activities.	3. In this type of agriculture, machines and modern technology are used.
4. In this, modern agricultural inputs, e.g., fertilisers and irrigation are not widely used.	4. There is higher use of modern agricultural inputs, e.g., HYV seeds, fertilisers, irrigation, etc. are used to obtain higher yields and production.
5. Subsistence Agriculture is called Jhumming in Assam, Mizoram; Kuruwa in Jharkhand.  E.g., Slash and Burn.	5. The degree of commercialization varies from one region to another.  Rice is a commercial crop in Punjab, while in Orissa it is subsistence crop. E.g., Plantation agriculture.

Question 10.

What is the most important characteristic of commercial farming?

Answer:

The main characteristic of commercial farming is the use of higher doses of modern inputs, e.g., high yielding varieties seeds (HYVs), chemical fertilizers and pesticides to increase productivity.

The degree of commercialisation of agriculture varies from one region to another.

Question 11.

Give an example of a crop which is commercial in one region and provides subsistence in another. (2012)

Answer:

Rice is a commercial crop in Haryana and Punjab, while in Odisha it is a subsistence crop.

SUBJECT TEACHER MUKESH KUMAR