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Date 14.X.XX .

Class Xth   Subject geography

Chapter Agriculture

Read the following question and answer throughly and try to understand and Write down in your H.W.Copy.

Question-
How has agriculture contributed to the national Income and employment?
Solution:
(1) Agriculture has been the backbone of Indian economy. It provides employment and livelihood to nearly 63% of India's population (In 2001).
(2) Two thirds of India's population is engaged in agricultural activities.
(3) Agriculture is a primary activity which produces most of the food that we consume. Besides food grains, it also produces raw materials for many industries. Some agricultural products like tea, coffee, spices etc are exported and they bring in foreign exchange for the country.

Question-
What are the 3 main problems faced by Indian farmers today?
Solution:
The problems faced by the Indian farmers are :-
(1) There is lack of availability of water for irrigation.
(2) Most of the farmers have small holdings which are uneconomical.
(3) The high yielding variety of seeds, chemical fertilizers, insecticides, pesticides etc are expensive and our farmers find it difficult to purchase these.
(4) The soil is loosing its fertility; due to soil erosion, absence of good forests.
(5) Our farmers have to take heavy loans. Therefore, to payback these, they are compelled to sell their produce at cheap rates.

Question-
Who introduced tea in India? Why do we say that tea is a labour intensive industry? Where is it mostly produced? Name the major tea producing states.
Solution:
(1) The British introduced tea to India.
(2) Tea is labour intensive industry because it requires abundant, cheap and skilled labour.

(3) Tea is generally processed within the tea gardens to restore its freshness.

(4) Major tea producing states are – Assam, hills of Darjeeling and Jalpaigur districts, West Bengal, Tamil Nadu, Kerala. Besides, Himachal Pradesh, Uttaranchal, Meghalaya, Andhra Pradesh and Tripura are also tea producing states.

Question-

Mention the important millets grown in India. Which of them is the 3rd most important crop with respect to area and production? What is the importance of millets? Give examples.

Solution:

(1) Jowar, bajra and ragi are the most important millets of India.

(2) Jowar is the 3rd most important crop with respect to area and production.

(3) Importance – Millets have high nutritional value. For example, Ragi is very rich in iron, calcium, other micro-nutrients and roughage.

Question-

Give the second most important cereal crop of India? When is it grown? What is the temperature, soil, rainfall, and irrigation required for its production?

Solution:

(1) Wheat is the second most important cereal crop of India.

(2) This is a rabi crop, its sown in winter from October to December.

(3) It requires a cool growing season and a bright sunshine at the time of ripening.

(4) Requires 50 to 75 cms of annual rainfall, evenly distributed over growing seasons or irrigation facilities.

Question-

Why has Indian agriculture been transformed from subsistence to commercial farming.

Solution:

Before independence Indian agriculture was mainly that of subsistence farming, but now it has changed to commercial farming. The reasons are –

(1) The small and scattered land holdings have been consolidated and converted to large holding and ploughed on cooperative basis.

(2) The farmers have started using modern techniques of farming and scientific methods; also they have started use of fertilizers and high yielding varieties of seeds and farm machinery.

(3) Irrigation methods have improved, resulting in increased soil fertility.

(4) New methods of agriculture like rotation of crops, inter cropping, strip cropping, multiple cropping, have been adopted for better results.

(5) As a result of production of wheat, rice, sugarcane, millets etc spices, cotton, jute, tea etc has increased many times.

Due to all these reasons Indian agriculture is shifting from subsistence to commercial farming.

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