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CH: AGRICULTURE (SHORT TYPES QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS)

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

Question-1.

Define plantation farming. What are its main characteristics? Name any five plantation crops of India.

Solution:

Plantation farming is a bush or tree farming. In this type of farming a single crop is grown on a large area. Characteristics –

This type of agriculture is found in:

- (1) Hilly areas or North India, Sub Himalayas, W Bengal, Nilgiris, Andaman and cardamom hills.
- (2) The plantation has an interface of agriculture and industry.
- (3) Covers large areas of land.
- (4) It is capital intensive, i.e it requires expensive inputs, requires skilled labourers.
- (5) All the production is used as raw material in respective industries. The important crops are tea, coffee, banana, sugarcane etc.

Question-2.

Give the characteristics of commercial farming?

Solution:

- (1) Use of higher doses of modern inputs, that is high yielding variety (HYV) seeds, chemical fertilizers, insecticides and pesticides in order to obtain higher productivity.
- (2) Agriculture goods are mainly produced for sale.
- (3) The main crops are rice, millets, spices, cotton, etc. The farmer can sell them on commercial lines.
- (4) The degree of commercialization varies from one region to another. For example, rice is a commercial crop in Haryana and Punjab, but in Orissa, it is subsistence farming.

Question-3.

What is slash and burn agriculture?

Solution:

In this farmers clear a patch of land and produce cereals and other crops to sustain their family, when the soil loses its fertility, the farmers shift and clear a fresh patch of land for cultivation. Nature replenishes the fertility of soil through natural processes. Land productivity in this type of agriculture is low, because the farmers do not use fertilizers or other modern inputs. It is generally known as shifting agriculture, but also known in different names in different parts of the country.

Question-4.

Define subsistence farming and give its main characteristics.

Solution:

Refers to an agricultural system where crops are produced for self use or for circulation within the social networks for ritual, ceremonial exchange purposes, and some food may be sold in the market.

Characteristics:-

- (a) Small scattered land holding.
- (b) Primitive tools.
- (c) Farmers being poor do not use fertilizers and high yielding quality seeds as per requirement, facilities like electricity, irrigation, generally is not available to farmers.
- (d) It has given way to commercial agriculture to some extent.

Question-5.

What are the different types of farming / agriculture practiced in India?

Solution:

- (1) Primitive Subsistence Farming – Known by different name in different parts of India, subdivided into shifting agriculture.
- (2) Intensive Subsistence Farming – Practiced in areas of high population pressure. It is labour intensive.
- (3) Commercial Farming – Includes plantation farming.

Question-6.

Describe the geographical conditions required for the growth of rice.

Solution:

It is a kharif crop, which requires –

- (a) High Temperature – above 15. C and high humidity.
- (b) Rainfall – Annual rainfall above 100cms. In areas of less rainfall, it grows with the help of irrigation.
- (c) Plains of North and North-eastern India, coastal areas and deltaic regions are suitable for the growth of rice.

Question-7.

What type of soil is suited for cultivation of tea?

Solution:

Deep fertile well drained soil rich in humus and organic matter is suited for cultivation of tea.

Question-8.

Mention two characteristics of commercial farming.

Solution:

High doses of fertilisers and pesticides are used in commercial farming.

Question-9.

Which price is announced by the government in support of a crop?

Solution:

Minimum Support Price is announced by the government in support of a crop.

Question-10.

Name four major wheat producing states in India.

Solution:

Punjab, Haryana, Uttar Pradesh and Madhya Pradesh are the four major wheat producing states in India.

Question-11.

How have technological and institutional reforms been able to improve the conditions of Indian farmers?

Solution:

The Zamindari system in which property rights are vested on absentee landlords was abolished after India became independent. Ownership rights were transferred to the actual tillers of the land. The new land owners made improvements on their lands. This led to increase in yields.

Land ceiling acts were passed to ensure that no person could hold agricultural land beyond a specified limit. The excess land was distributed among the landless labourers.

Small land holdings scattered over various places were consolidated through the Consolidation of holdings Acts passed by the State legislatures. This resulted in farmers being able to fence their lands, sink wells and use modern agricultural machinery.

Formation of Corporative societies helped farmers get seeds, pesticides and fertilizers at economical prices. All these helped improve the condition of the Indian farmers.

Question-12.

What is the importance of agriculture on Indian economy? Name 3 features of Indian agriculture.

Solution:

- a. India is an agricultural country.
- b. Nearly two-thirds of its population depends directly on agriculture for its livelihood.
- c. Agriculture is the main stay of India's economy.
- d. It accounts for 26% of the gross domestic product.
- e. It ensures food security for the country and produces several raw materials for industries.
- f. Agricultural development is therefore, a precondition of our national prosperity.

Features

- a. Farmers own small piece of land and grow crops primarily for their own consumption.
- b. Animals play a significant role in the various kinds of agricultural activities.
- c. Farmers depend mainly upon monsoon rains.

Question-13.

Solution:

- a. Plantation farming is bush or tree farming
- b. The British introduced it in the nineteenth century.
- c. It is a single crop farming of rubber, tea, coffee, cocoa, spices, coconut and fruits like apples, grapes, oranges etc.
- d. It is capital intensive and demands good managerial ability, technical know-how, sophisticated machinery, fertilizers, irrigation and transport facilities.
- e. Some of the plantations like tea, coffee, rubber have a processing factory within the farm itself or close to it.
- f. This type of agriculture has developed in hilly areas of north- eastern India, sub-Himalayan, West Bengal and in Nilgiri, Anamalai and Cardamom hills in peninsular India.

Question.14.

Describe various technological and institutional reforms, which led to Green and White revolutions in India.

Solution:

The various technological and institutional reforms consist of various measures taken by the Central and State governments from time to time. Flooding of fields with water is now being replaced by drip irrigation and the use of sprinklers. Chemical fertilizers are being used on a large scale, to increase the farm yields. Bio-fertilisers are now supplementing them. High yielding and early maturing quality seeds have been developed. Most of these technology inputs gave birth to Green Revolution in sixties and seventies of twentieth century. White Revolution followed the Green Revolution.

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