



Class 10	Geography	Ch 4: Agriculture
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Very Short Answer Type Questions

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1. What is agriculture

Answer: The art and science of cultivating soil, raising crops and rearing livestock including animal husbandry and forestry.

2. Name any two farming system (agriculture type) which are practised in India.

Answer: (a) Primitive subsistence (fa) Commercial farming

3. Name any four agricultural products exported by India.

Answer: (a) Tea

(b) Coffee

(c) Spices

(d) Jute

4. What is primitive subsistence farming [CBSE 2014]

Answer: It is a type of agriculture / farming which is practised on small patches of land with the help of primitive tools like hoe, doe, digging sticks and family / community labour.

5. What is slash and burn agriculture

Answer: Under slash and bum agriculture, farmers clear a patch of land and produce cereals and other food crops to sustain their family.

6. Which type of agriculture is practised on small patches of land with the help of primitive tools

Answer: Primitive subsistence farming.

7. What is intensive subsistence farming

Answer: It is a type of farming practised in areas with high density of population using modern inputs

8. Name any two states where commercial farming is practised.

Answer: Punjab and Haryana.

9. Mention any four plantation crops produced in India.

Answer: Tea, coffee, rubber and sugarcane.

10. Mention any two factors which play an important role in the development of plantations.

Answer: (i) Developed network of transport and communication connecting the plantation areas.

(ii) Developed market.

11. Name the cropping seasons of India with examples.

Answer: (i) Rabi – wheat

(ii) Kharif – paddy

(iii) Zaid – watermelon

12. What are rabi crops. Give four examples.

Answer: The crops which are grown in winter from October to December and harvested in summer from April to June. Wheat, barley, peas, gram are some examples of rabi crops.

13. What is the period of kharif crop [CBSE 2014]

Answer: Kharif season starts with the onset of the monsoon i.e., June-July and continues till the beginning of winter i.e., October-November.

(ii) Rainfall : Moderate to light rainfall is adequate for cotton cultivation.

Rainfall ranging between 50 cm to 80 cm is adequate. The crop can be successfully grown in areas of low rainfall with the help of irrigation.

(iii) Soil : Cotton can be grown on a variety of soils but the black cotton soil of

the Deccan Plateau which has the ability to retain moisture is most suitable. It also grows well in alluvial soils of the Satluj-Ganga Plain.

Areas of Production :

The leading cotton producing states are Gujarat, Maharashtra, Andhra Pradesh, Punjab, Haryana, Karnataka, Tamil Nadu and Madhya Pradesh. Punjab and Haryana grow the long staple variety.

13. Which crop is known as the “golden fibre” Explain two geographical conditions essential for the cultivation of this crop. Mention any four uses. [CBSE 2012]

Or

What is known as ‘golden fibre’? Where is it grown in India and why Describe various uses of this fibre.[CBSE 2012]

Answer: (1) Jute is called golden fibre.

(2) Geographical conditions for its cultivation are as follows :

(i) Jute grows well in well-drained fertile soils of the flood plains where the soil is renewed every year.

(ii) High temperature is required during the time of growth.

(3) It grows well on well-drained fertile soils in the flood plains.

(4) Therefore, it is grown in West Bengal, Bihar, Assam, Odisha and Meghalaya.

Uses : It can be used to manufacture gunny bags, mats, ropes, yam, carpets and other artifacts.

14. Differentiate between the commercial agriculture and the subsistence agriculture. [CBSE Sept. 2010, 2011, 2012, 2013]

Answer:

Subsistence farming:

(i) Farming practices in which the entire crops are consumed by the farmers and their family. They do not have any surplus to sell in the market.

(ii) Farms are small and fragmented.

(iii) food crops are cultivated mostly are cereals like rice and wheat along with oil seeds, vegetables and sugarcane.

(iv) Old tools and implements are used by the farmers. There is a total absence of modern equipment like tractors and farm inputs like chemical fertilizers, insecticides and pesticides.

(v) Depends on monsoon and there is greater use of manpower.

Commercial farming:

- (i) In this Farming practice most of the goods produced are mainly sold in the market for earning money.
- (ii) Landholdings are large and cash crops are cultivated to earn money from them.
- (iii) Major commercial crops grown in different parts of India are cotton, jute, sugarcane groundnut.
- (iv) In this type of farming, farmers use inputs like irrigation, chemical fertilizers, insecticides, pesticides and high yielding varieties of seeds better.
- (v) By the use of modern equipment like tractors e.tc .less manpower is used .

14. Name any four oilseeds produced in India. What is their economic importance

Or

Name any four oilseeds produced in India. Explain the importance of oilseeds in our day to day life. [CBSE 2012]

Answer: Main oilseeds produced in India are :

- (i) Groundnut (ii) Mustard
- (iii) Coconut (iv) Sesamum

Economic importance of oilseeds :

- (i) Most of these are edible, and used as a cooking medium in the form of oil.
- (ii) Extracted oil is also used as raw material for manufacturing large number of items like paints, varnishes, hydrogenated oil, soaps, perfumes, lubricants, etc.
- (iii) Oil cake which is the by product, obtained after the extraction of oil from oilseeds is an excellent cattle feed.
- (iv) Oil cake is also used as a fertilisers.

15. Which states are the leading producers of the following horticultural crops

- (i) Mangoes**
- (ii) Bananas**
- (iii) Grapes**
- (iv) Apples and Apricots**

Answer: (i) Mangoes : Maharashtra, Andhra Pradesh, Uttar Pradesh and West Bengal.

(ii) Bananas : Kerala, Mizoram, Maharashtra and Tamil Nadu.

(iii) Grapes : Andhra Pradesh and Maharashtra.

(iv) Apples and Apricots : Jammu and Kashmir and Himachal Pradesh.

16. "Today Indian farmers are facing a big challenge from international competition." What are the various factors responsible for this situation

Or

Why is the growth rate in agriculture decelerating [CBSE 2010(F)]

Answer: (i) The Indian government is going ahead with reduction in the public investment in the agriculture sector particularly in irrigation, power, rural roads, market and mechanisation.

(ii) Subsidy on fertilisers is decreased leading to increase in the cost of production.

(iii) Reduction in import duties on agricultural products have proved detrimental to agriculture in the country.

(iv) Farmers are withdrawing their investment from agriculture causing a downfall in the employment in agriculture.

17. Name any three features of Indian agriculture. [CBSE 2013]

Or

What are the factors responsible for the backwardness of Indian agriculture

Or

Describe any four features of agriculture in India. [CBSE Sept. 2010]

Answer: (i) Over dependence on monsoon : Major portion of the cropped area still depends upon monsoons for irrigation. Only one- third of the cropped area is under assured irrigation.

(ii) Subsistence agriculture : (For this, refer Question No. 2, Long Answer Type Questions)

(iii) Small and scattered land holding : Due to the increasing population, the per hectare availability of land is very low.

(iv) Lack of inputs : Most of the farmers are poor so they do not use fertilisers and high yielding varieties of seeds.

18. Describe various technological and institutional reforms which led to the Green and White Revolution in India. [CBSE Sept. 2012]

Answer: No description regarding white Revolution. Green Revolution means revolution in the field of agricultural production due to the introduction of various technological and institutional reforms.

Factors responsible :

- (i) Agriculture was given the top priority in Five Year Plans.
- (ii) The development of HYV seeds of wheat in the early 60s, and those of rice in 70s laid the foundation of the Green Revolution in India.
- (iii) Several schemes for irrigation were undertaken, and arid and semi-arid areas were brought under cultivation.
- (iv) Collectivisation, consolidation of holdings, abolition of the Zamindari system, etc., were given top priority to bring about institutional reforms in the country after independence.
- (v) Cropped insurance scheme was launched by the government to protect the farmers against losses caused by crop failure on account of natural calamities like drought, flood, hailstorm, cyclone, fire, etc.
- (vi) Easy availability of capital or investment, input through a well knit network of rural banking and small scale co-operative societies with low interest rates were other facilities provided to the farmers for the modernisation of agriculture.

19. How is the government helping the Indian farmers in increasing their agricultural production Explain any four points.

Or

Describe any four reforms brought in the Indian agriculture after independence through the efforts of the Indian government. [CBSE 2010(F), Sept. 2010]

Or

What initiatives have been taken by government to ensure an increase in agricultural production [CBSE Sept. 2011]

Answer: (i) Institutional Reforms : To increase production in agriculture, the government has introduced some institutional measures which include collectivisation, consolidation of holding, cooperation and abolition of Zamindari system.

(ii) Comprehensive Land Development Programme : In the 1980s and 1990s, a comprehensive land development programme was initiated, which included both institutional and technical reforms. Provision for crop insurance against drought, flood, cyclone, fire and disease, establishment of Grameen banks, cooperative societies and banks for providing loan facilities to the farmers at lower rates of interest were some important steps in this direction.

(iii) Subsidies : The government is providing huge subsidies on the agricultural inputs. At present, maximum subsidy is being given on fertilizers.

(iv) HYV Seeds and Agriculture Universities : In order to enhance production, the government is providing HYV seeds to the farmers. Special seminars are also being held. Many new agricultural universities have been established.

(v) Public Procurement System and Agriculture Price Commission : Agriculture Price Commission has been set up which declares the prices of agricultural products in advance so that the farmers may know what they are going to get for their agricultural products. Government agencies like the F.C.I. (Food Corporation of India) purchase the agricultural products from the farmers.

(vi) Crop Insurance and Agricultural Finance : As we are aware that the Indian agriculture mainly depends on nature, so high risk crops are also being insured. The government has established special banks like the NABARD to provide agricultural loans to farmers.

20. (i) Mention the climatic conditions required for the growth of Bajra.

(ii) Mention any four states which are the main producers of this crop.

Answer: Climatic conditions required for the growth of Bajra :

(i) It grows well on sandy soils and shallow black soil.

(ii) It needs dry climatic conditions. Producers : Rajasthan, Uttar Pradesh, Maharashtra, Gujarat and Haryana.

21. Give an account of oil-seeds in India. State the importance of groundnut and name the states where it is grown. [CBSE 2013]

Answer: (1) (i) India is the largest producer of oil-seeds in the world.

(ii) Different types of oil-seeds are grown covering approximately 12 per cent of the total cropped area of India.

(iii) India is an important producer of groundnut, mustard, coconut, sesamum, soyabean, castor seeds, cotton seeds, linseed and sunflower.

(iv) Most of these are edible and used as cooking medium and some of these are also used as raw materials in the production of soap, cosmetics and ointments.

- (2) (i) Groundnut is a kharif crop and accounts for about half of the major oilseeds produced in the country.
(ii) Andhra Pradesh, is the largest producer of groundnut. It is also grown in Tamil Nadu, Karnataka, Gujarat and Maharashtra.

22. Why the Indian farmers should grow more pulses

- Answer:** (i) India is the one of the largest consumer of pulses as these are the major source of protein in a vegetarian diet.
(ii) Pulses need less moisture and can survive even in dry conditions.
(iii) Pulses are leguminous crops as these help in restoring soil fertility by fixing nitrogen from the air.

21. Which fibre crop is known as golden fibres Why is the golden fibre losing its market Why the products produced from golden fibre be promoted

Answer: Jute is known as golden fibre. Jute products are losing market because of high cost. Jute products should be promoted because these are eco-friendly.

22. Explain any four factors which have hindered the pace of agricultural development in India.

- Answer:** (i) Overcrowding in agriculture : The real problem of Indian agriculture is that there are too many people who depend on agriculture. Since 1901, the proportion of people dependent on agriculture has almost remained constant, i.e., 70%.
(ii) Problem of inputs : Indian agriculture suffered because of the inadequacy of finance, seeds, fertilizers, marketing, transportation, etc.
(iii) Size of landholdings : The average size of holding in India is very low, less than 2 hectares or 5 acres. Not only agricultural holdings are small, but they are also fragmented. In certain parts of the country, plots of land have become so small that it is impossible to use modern machinery.
(iv) Over dependence on nature : In spite of the development of sources of irrigation, most of the farmers in large parts of the country still depend upon monsoon and natural fertility in order to carry on their agriculture.

23. “The decline share of agriculture in the GDP is a matter of serious concern”. Explain. [CBSE 2012]

Answer: (i) More than half the population of India's work force is employed by the farm sector.

(ii) Any decline in the share of agriculture means low production of foodgrains this may lead to food shortage.

(iii) Any decline and stagnation in agriculture will lead to a decline in other spheres of the economy having wider implications for society.
