

LESSON – 2 AGRICULTURE

Key concepts of the lesson –

- ✓ Primitive Subsistence Farming, Intensive Subsistence Farming
- ✓ Classification of crops /Types of crops
- ✓ Cropping seasons: Rabi, Kharif and Zaid
- ✓ Geographical condition & production area of wheat, rice, paddy, tea, sugarcane, jute, rubber, cotton etc. important fibre crops
- ✓ Impact of globalization on Indian agriculture
- ✓ Contribution of agriculture to the national Economy, employment and output
- ✓ Identification and also for locating and labeling in outline map of India
- ✓ (a) Major areas of rice and wheat.
- ✓ (b) Major producer states of sugarcane, tea, coffee, rubber, cotton, jute, millets and maize.
- ✓ **Note:** Items for locating and labeling may also be asked for identification.

Very Short Type Questions

Q.1. Write the name of cash crops?

Ans:- Cotton, Jute, Sugar cane.

Q.2. What do you mean by white revolution?

Ans:- Maximum production of Milk

Q.3. Name the two beverage crops produce in India?

Ans:- Tea and Coffee.

Q.4. What is the other name of operation flood?

Ans:- White revolution.

Q.5. The main producer of groundnut in India is?

Ans:- Madhya Pradesh.

Q.6. Wheat is related to which type of crops ?

Ans:- Rabi crops .

Q.7. In which types of soil does maize grow well?

Ans: Old Alluvial Soil (Banger Soil)

Q.8. Name the two example of plantation agriculture?

Ans:- Tea and Coffee.

Q.9. What is the other name of package technology?

Ans:- Green revolution.

Q.10. Name two fibre crops

Ans:- Cotton and Jute.

Q.11. What is Sericulture?

Ans:- Rearing of silkworm for the production of silk is known as sericulture.

Q.12 What part of total population of India is engaged in agriculture activities

Ans:- 2/3

Q.13 Write the name Agro-based industry

Ans:- Cotton textile Industry, Jute Industry, Sugar Industry

Q.14 It's type of agriculture where farmers clear a patch of land and produce food crops to sustain that family that is.....

Ans:- Slash and burn farming

Q15 Agriculture, where a single crop is grown on large area:

Ans:- Plantation agriculture

Q.16 Write one name of "Kharif" crop

Ans:- Maize

Q.17 Maximum consumption of natural rubber is made of –

Ans:- Auto tyres & tubes

Q.18 India is the larger producer as well as the consumer of the world?

Ans:- Pulses

SHORT ANSWER TYPE QUESTIONS

Q.1 What are three cropping seasons of India? Explain any one in brief.

Ans: India has three cropping seasons:-

(1) Rabi (2) Kharif and (3) Zaid

(1) Rabi crops:- Sown in winter from October to December. - Harvest in summer from April to June. - Main crop-wheat, barley, peas, gram, mustard

(2) Kharif crop:- Grown with the onset of monsoon in different parts of the country. - Harvest in September-October. - Maize, jawar, bajra, cotton, Soya been

(3) Zaid crops:- Sown between rabbi and kharif seasons. Crops: Watermelon, Muskmelon, cucumber, fodder etc.

Q.2 Discuss three main impacts of globalization on Indian agriculture.

Ans: 1. Indian agricultural products are not able to compete with the developed countries.

2. Bad condition of marginal and small farmers

3. Caused land degradation due to overuse of chemicals.

LONG ANSWER TYPE QUESTIONS

Q1. 'India is an agricultural country' Comment.

Or Why is agricultural development a precondition for our national prosperity?

Or What is the importance of agriculture in India?

Ans :- 1) India is an agricultural country. Nearly two-third of its population depends directly on agriculture for its livelihood.

2) Agriculture is the mainstay of India's economy. It accounts for 26 % of the Gross Domestic Product.

3) Agriculture provides 10 % of our total exports and a source of fodder for animals.

4) Its share in providing employment and livelihood to the population is 63 per cent in 2001.

Q2. Define the term agriculture.

Ans :- The term agriculture is derived from two Latin words 'ager' meaning land and 'culture' meaning cultivation. Agriculture thus means land cultivation. However, it includes animal husbandry, forestry, horticulture and pisciculture.

Q3. State any two reasons for the change in the methods of cultivation.

Ans :- i. Change in the physical environment

ii. Change in the technological know-how

iii. Change in the socio cultural practices. (Explain)

Q4. Differentiate between net sown area and gross cropped area.

Ans :- 1) The total land cultivated in a year is called net sown area. The net sown area and the land in the net sown area cultivated more than once together make gross cultivated area.

2) The net sown area in India at the present is 143 million hectares. It is about 46.6 % of the total geographical area.

Q5. Mention in brief, the various limitations from which the Indian agriculture suffers presently. (Drawback of Indian agriculture)

Ans :- I. Agriculture is not generating sufficient employment opportunities in the country. The growth rate in agriculture is decelerating which is an alarming situation.

II. Today, Indian farmers are facing a big challenge from international competition and our government is going ahead with reduction in the public investment in agriculture sector particularly in irrigation, power, rural roads, market and mechanization.

III. Subsidy on fertilizers is decreased leading to increase in the cost of production. Moreover, 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.

Q6. What is primitive subsistence farming? Why do majority of Indian farmers follow it?

Ans :- i. Subsistence farming is the cultivation of crops for domestic use and not for sale. It is practiced in small patches of land with the help of primitive tools like hoe, digging sticks and family labour.

ii. This type of farming depends on monsoon, natural fertility of the soil and suitability of other environmental conditions to the crops grown.

iii. Majority of Indian farmers practise subsistence farming because they have scattered land holdings and they use only primitive tools.

iv. They are poor farmers and they can't use fertilizers and machinery. Facilities like electricity and irrigation are not available to them.

Q7. Name any two local names of primitive subsistence farming.

Ans :- i. It is Jhumming in Assam, Meghalaya, Mizoram and Nagaland.

ii. In Manipur it is Pamlou.

iii. It is Dipa in Bastar districts of Chattisgarh and Andaman and Nicobar Islands.

Q8. What is intensive subsistence farming? Why do the farmers follow this type of farming?

Ans :- i. It is a type of farming practiced in the areas of high population pressure on land. It is a labour intensive farming, where high doses of bio-chemical inputs and irrigation are used for obtaining high production.

ii. The farmers follow this type because their holding of land is very small due to continuous family partition and the 'right of inheritance' and the absence of alternative sources of livelihood.

9. What is commercial farming? What are its characteristics?

Ans :- It is the type of farming practised mainly for sale. So they produce more than what they require for domestic consumption. Plantation agriculture is an example of commercial farming. Its characteristics are the following:

i. Modern inputs like High Yielding Varieties of seeds, chemical fertilizers, insecticides, and pesticides are used.

ii. The yield per hectare or productivity is very high.

iii. It is a mechanized farming system in which modern machinery is used.

iv. Irrigation facilities are available to this farming technique.

Q10. What are the features of plantation agriculture?

Ans :- Plantation agriculture is bush or tree farming. The British introduced it in the 19th Century. Its features are the following:

1) It is a single crop farming in a large area. It includes tea, coffee, cocoa, spices, coconut, apples, grapes, oranges etc.

2) It is a capital-intensive agriculture and requires good managerial ability.

3) It requires technical know-how, sophisticated machinery, fertilizes, irrigation and transport facilities.

4) It is normally developed in hilly areas of north-eastern India, Nilgiri, Aanamalai and Cardamom hills.

5) Since the production is on large quantity processing factory also is built with in or close to it.

6) All the produce is used as raw material in respective industries and has an interface of agriculture and industry.

Q11. Which are the different crop seasons in India?

Ans :-

i. Kharif Crop season: The 'Kharif' season starts with the onset of monsoon and continues till the beginning of winter i.e. from June – July to September -October. Crops like rice, maize, millet, cotton, groundnut, moong, urad etc. are grown in Kharif season.

ii. Rabi Crop Season: Rabi season starts in winter from October to December and harvested in summer from April to June. Crops such as wheat, barley, grain, linseed, rape seed and mustard seeds are grown in rabi season.

iii. Zaid season: It is a crop season between Rabi and Kharif seasons practised during the end of summer in March to May. Crops like watermelon, muskmelon, cucumber, vegetables, and fodder crops are grown during this period.

Q12. Name an important staple crop of India and the regions where it is produced.

Or Describe the temperature and rainfall conditions necessary for the growth of rice. Name the major areas of rice production.

Or What are the features of rice cultivation in India?

Ans :-

- ✓ Rice is the most important staple crop in India.
- ✓ It is a tropical plant. It requires high temperature and high humidity for its successful growth.
- ✓ The mean monthly temperature of about 25°C, with minor variations during, sowing, growing and harvesting seasons, is ideal for its cultivation.
- ✓ It grows well in areas of 100 cm of rainfall.
- ✓ In the areas of less rainfall, it is grown with the help of irrigation.
- ✓ The most important rice producing areas are Bengal, Uttar Pradesh, Punjab, Andhra Pradesh and Tamil Nadu (BUPAT)

Q13. Describe the temperature and rainfall conditions necessary for the growth of wheat. Name the major areas of wheat production.

Ans :-

- ✓ India is the second largest producer of wheat after China.
- ✓ It is a rabi crop. The ideal temperature at the time of sowing wheat is 10 to 15° C and at the time of harvest, it is 20 to 25° C.
- ✓ The crop grows well in areas where rainfall is 50 to 75 cm.
- ✓ It requires well-drained fertile lands.
- ✓ This crop requires cool growing season and a bright sunshine at the time of ripening.
- ✓ It grows well in two wheat growing zones in India viz. the Ganga Satluj plains in the north-west and the black soil region in the Deccan.
- ✓ The major areas of wheat cultivation is Punjab, Haryana, Uttar Pradesh, Rajasthan and Bihar.(PHURB)

Q14.. What are millets? Why are millets a very important food crop in India?

Ans :-

- a) Millets are the third most important food crops in India, after rice and wheat. Jowar, bajra and ragi are some of the important millets grown in India. They have high nutritional value. Ragi is rich in iron, calcium and other micro nutrients.
- b) Jowar is produced in many states like Maharashtra, Karnataka, Andhra Pradesh, and Madhya Pradesh.
- c) Rajasthan is the largest producer of Bajra. It is also produced in Uttar Pradesh, Maharashtra, Gujarat and Haryana.
- d) Ragi is produced mainly in the drier parts of Karnataka and Tamil Nadu.
- e) Rice and Wheat cannot provide the total food of India. So millets are important to support the food requirements.

Q15. Describe the characteristics of maize and its cultivation.

Ans :-

- (a) Maize is a coarse grain and used as both food and fodder.
- (b) It is grown under varied soil and climatic conditions.
- (c) It grows well in areas of 50 to 100cm of rain and in areas of less rain it is grown under irrigation.
- (d) It grows well under temperature between 21 and 27°C and grows well in old alluvial soil.
- (e) It requires well-drained fertile soil.
- (f) It is cultivated mainly as a kharif crop.
- (g) Major maize producing states are Karnataka, Uttar Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh, Bihar and Andhra Pradesh(KUMBA)

Q16. Name an important beverage crop and specify the geographical conditions required for its growth.

Ans :- Tea is an important beverage crop in India.

- (1) Tea cultivation in India is a classic example of plantation agriculture. It is a tropical as well as a sub-tropical plant.
- (2) Tea grows well in deep and fertile well-drained soil, rich in humus and organic matter.
- (3) It requires warm and moist frost-free climate all through the year.
- (4) It is a labour intensive crop and requires cheap and skilled labour.
- (5) The ideal temperature for its growth is 20 to 30°C and annual rainfall of 150 to 300 cm.
- (6) High humidity is good for the rapid development of tender leaves.
- (7) Major tea producing states are Assam, West Bengal, Tamil Nadu and Kerala.

Q17. Which are the important fibre crops in India. Mention the major producing areas of any two crops.

Ans :-

- i) Cotton, Jute, Silk and Wool are the important fibre crops of India. Cotton is grown in tropical and sub-tropical areas.
- ii) It requires at least 210 frost-free days. It is grown well in black and alluvial soils.
- iii) It requires 6 to 8 months to mature and it is a kharif crop. It requires a lot of cheap and efficient labour at the time of plucking of cotton balls. At the time of harvest, the weather should be fine to maintain the luster of cotton.
- iv) The main cotton producing states are Gujarat, Haryana, Punjab, Andhra Pradesh and Maharashtra.
 - a) Jute is a crop of hot and humid climate. The crop takes 8 to 10 months to mature.
 - b) The fibre is obtained from the retting of the plant.
 - c) It is used in making bags, mats, ropes, yarn, carpets and other artifacts.
 - d) It is produced in Bihar, Orissa, West Bengal, Assam, and Meghalaya.

Q18. How have the technological and institutional reforms been able to improve the conditions of Indian agriculture? Explain with suitable examples.

Ans :-

➤ **Technological Reforms**

- a) Modern machineries are used in agriculture for ploughing, sowing, harvesting and thrashing.
- b) Indian farmers have started to use chemical fertilizers on a large scale.
- c) High Yielding Varieties and early maturing quality seeds have been introduced to increase the agricultural production.
- d) Irrigation facilities have improved with the constructions of canals and the introduction of motor pumps, drip irrigation and use of sprinklers.

➤ **Institutional Reforms.** (inlist the various institutional reform programmes introduced by the Government in the interest of farmers).

- a) The govt. abolished the Zamindari system to protect the interest of the farmers.
- b) The Govt. encouraged the consolidation of smallholdings of land to make them more profitable.
- c) The widespread use of radio and television acquainted farmers in new and improved techniques of cultivation.

- d) The crop insurance against drought, flood, fire, cyclone and diseases was another set up to protect the farmers in new and improved techniques of cultivation.
- e) Easy availability of capital or investment, through a well-knit network of rural banking like 'Grammen banks' was introduced.
- f) Special bulletins for farmers were introduced in T.V. and radios to take precautionary measures.
- g) Minimum support price for various crops is introduced to remove uncertainty of prices and sales.
- h) Issue of Kisan Credit Cards and introduction of Personal Accident Insurance Scheme are some other measures taken.

Q19. Explain any four features of the comprehensive land development programmes initiated in our country during 1980s and 1990s.

Ans :-

- i. Comprehensive land development programmes, which included the institutional and technological reforms, were introduced in 1980s and 1990s.
- ii. The widespread use of radio and television acquainted farmers with new and improved techniques of cultivation.
- iii. The crop insurance against drought, flood, fire, cyclone and diseases was another schemes to protect the farmers against crop failures.
- iv. Easy availability of capital or investment through a well-knit network of rural banking like 'Grammen banks' were introduced.
- v. Special bulletins for farmers were introduced in T.V. and radios to make precautionary measures and to get the farmers acquainted with modern techniques of farming.
- vi. Issue of Kissan Credit Cards and introduction of Personal Accident Insurance Scheme are some other measures taken.
- vii. The government also announced minimum support price for important crops to check the exploitation of farmers by speculators and intermediaries. (Any four)