

Ch 4 - Agriculture

Answer the following questions in 30 words :

- ii) Name one important beverage crop and specify the geographical conditions required for its growth.

Ans a) Tea is also an important beverage crop introduced in India along with coffee.

b) The tea plant grows well in tropical and sub-tropical climates.

c) It requires deep and fertile well-drained soil, rich in humus and organic matter.

d) Tea bushes require a warm and moist frost-free climate all through the year.

e) Frequent showers evenly distributed over the year ensure continuous growth of tender leaves.

- (iii) Name one staple crop of India and the regions where it is produced.

Ans a) Rice is one of the staple crops of India.

b) Major rice-producing states are - Punjab, Haryana and Western Uttar Pradesh and Parts of Rajasthan.

- (iii) Enlist the various institutional reform programmes introduced by the government in the interest of farmers.

Ans (a) Collectivisation, consolidation of small holdings, co-operation and abolition of zamindari etc.

b) 'Land reform' was the main focus of our First Five Year Plan.

c) Provision for crop insurance against drought, flood, cyclone, fire and disease.

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- d) Establishment of Co-operative Banks, cooperative societies and banks for providing loan facilities to the farmers at lower rates of interest.
 - e) Kissan Credit Card (KCC) and Personal Accident Insurance Scheme (PAIS) are some other schemes introduced by the Government of India for the benefit of the farmers.
 - f) Special weather bulletins and agricultural programmes for farmers were introduced on radio and televisions.
 - g) Announcement regarding minimum support price, remunerative and procurement prices for important crops to check the exploitation of farmers by speculators and middlemen.
 - h) Subsidy on agricultural inputs and resources such as power and fertilisers.

(iv) The land under cultivation has got reduced day by day. Can you imagine its consequences?

Ans. a) India shall no longer be self-sufficient in its requirements of food grains.

b) Landless labourers will outweigh the ranks of unskilled - unemployed workers in India.

c) More farmers will switch over to the cultivation of high - value crops.

(v) Suggest the initiative taken by the government to ensure the increase in agricultural production.

Ans a) Organic farming is much in vogue today because it is practiced without factory made chemicals such as fertilisers and pesticides. Hence, it does not affect the environment in a negative manner.

b) Indian farmers should diversify their cropping pattern from cereals to high-value crops. This will increase incomes and reduce environmental degradation simultaneously.

c) ~~Become~~ Because fruits, medicinal herbs, flowers, vegetables, bio-diesel crops like ~~jatop~~ jatropha and jojoba need much less irrigation than rice or sugarcane. India's diverse climate can be harnessed to grow a wide range of high-value crops.

(vi) Describe the impact of globalisation on agriculture.

Ans Globalisation is an old phenomenon. It started at the time of colonisation.

- In the nineteenth century when European traders came to India, during that time as well the Indian spices were exported to different countries of the world and farmers of south India were encouraged and ~~encouraged~~ enhanced to grow these crops.
- Till today, it is one of the major items of export from India.
- Under globalisation, majorly after ~~1999~~ 1990, the farmers in India have been exposed to new challenges and tasks.

- Despite being an important and major producer of rice, cotton, rubber, tea, coffee, jute and spices, our agricultural products are not able to compete with the developed countries due to the highly subsidized agriculture in other foreign countries.
- Today, Indian agriculture marks itself at the crossroads.
- To make agriculture successful and profitable, a proper and considerable amount of thrust should be given to the improvement of the conditions of marginal and small farmers.
- Establishment of food processing industries, and increase in employment.
- One of the negative impacts of globalization on the India agriculture sector was the availability of lesser manpower in the fields as people started migrating to cities in search of jobs in different industries.