

Social Science Economics

Chapter-1 The Story of Village Palampur

2MARKS

1. Talk to some old residents in your region and write a short report on the changes in irrigation and changes in production methods during the last 30 years.

Answer: Students must do this activity and write an answer based on their own observation.

2. What are the non-farm production activities taking place in your region? Make a short list.

Answer:

The non-farm production activities taking place in our region are as follow:

1. Dairy
2. Transportation
3. General Stores
4. Fishing
5. Mining

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3. In your region, talk to two labourers. Choose either farm labourers or labourers working at construction sites. What wages do they get? Are they paid in cash or kind? Do they get work regularly? Are they in debt?

Answer:

Students must do this activity themselves and answer the question based on their survey.

4. What are the essential four requirements for the production of goods and services?

Answer:

Land and natural resources.

Labour.

Physical capital.

Knowledge and enterprise.

5. Mention the main features of the Green Revolution.

Answer:

Increase in wheat and rice production.

Use of chemical fertilizers.

Use of insecticides and pesticides.

Use of High Yielding Varieties (HYVs) of seeds.

Mechanization of agriculture.

6. What are the harmful effects of the Green Revolution?

Answer:

Loss of soil fertility due to increased use of chemical fertilizers.

Environmental degradation due to the use of chemical fertilizers and pesticides.

7. What do you mean by working capital?

Answer:

Raw materials and money in hand required during production are referred to as working capital.

8. What was the major disadvantage associated with HYV seeds? Explain.

Answer:

Major disadvantage: Requirement of plenty of water and chemical inputs.

Explanation: HYV seeds require significant amounts of water, chemical fertilizers, and pesticides for optimal results, leading to environmental degradation and increased costs for farmers.

9. Discuss dairy farming, a non-farming activity in village Palampur, in detail.

Answer:

Dairy farming is a common activity in Palampur.

Buffaloes are fed on various grass types and crops like jowar and bajra.

Milk is sold in nearby villages like Raiganj.

Two traders from Shahpur town have set up a collection cum chilling centre for milk.

7MARKS

1. Every village in India is surveyed once in ten years during the Census and some of the details are presented in the following format. Fill up the following based on information on Palampur.

- a. LOCATION:
- b. TOTAL AREA OF THE VILLAGE:
- c. LAND USE (in hectares):

Cultivated Land		Land not available for cultivation (Area covering dwellings, roads, ponds, grazing ground)
Irrigated	Unirrigated	
		26 hectares

b)FACILITIES:

Educational	
Medical	
Market	
Electricity Supply	
Communication	
Nearest Town	

Answer:

- a. LOCATION: Bulandshahr District, Western Uttar Pradesh
- b. TOTAL AREA OF THE VILLAGE: 226 hectares
- c. LAND USE (in hectares):

ECONOMICS

Cultivated Land		Land not available for cultivation (Area covering dwellings, roads, ponds, grazing ground)
Irrigated	Unirrigated	
200 hectares	—	26 hectares

FACILITIES:

Educational	1 high school, 2 primary schools
Medical	1 private dispensary, 1 primary health care centre run by the Government
Market	2 markets: Raiganj and Shahpur
Electricity Supply	Most of the houses have electricity connections. Electricity powers all the tubewells in the fields and is used for various small business.
Communication	Well-connected neighbouring villages, with Raiganj located within 3 kms. Proper transportation including bullock carts, tongas and bogeys carrying jaggery. Also, motor vehicles like motorcycles, jeeps, tractors and trucks are available for easy transportation.
Nearest Town	Shahpur

2. Modern farming methods require more inputs which are manufactured in industries. Do you agree?

Answer:

Yes, it is correct to say that modern farming methods require more inputs which are manufactured in industries. It is because modern farming methods use high-yielding varieties of seeds. These seeds require both chemical fertilisers and pesticides, agricultural implementations like tractors and proper irrigation facilities like electric tube wells, and all these elements are manufactured in industries. However, on the other hand, traditional farming methods use a relatively low-yielding variety of seeds and use cow dung and other natural manures as fertiliser, which is why they are less dependent on industrial outputs.

3. How did the spread of electricity help farmers in Palampur?

Answer:

The spread of electricity helped the farmers of Palampur as it aided in the transformation of the irrigation system of the village. The farmers earlier used Persian wheels to draw water from wells and irrigate small fields. But after the spread of electricity, electric tube wells replaced these Persian wheels. The first tube well was installed by the Government, but later, private tube wells were also set up by the farmers, resulting in the cultivation of the entire 200 hectares of irrigated land by the 1970s.

4. Is it important to increase the area under irrigation? Why?**Answer:**

It is important to increase the land under irrigation because farming is the main source of income for the maximum part of the population in India and only less than 40 per cent of the land is cultivable in the country. Farmers are dependent on the erratic monsoon season, and if the rainfall is less, farmers are bound to suffer a major loss. So if the water is provided for irrigation to the farmers for a larger portion of land, it would give better output and make more land cultivable in India and also encourage farmers to take up newer farming methods without the fear of suffering loss.

5. Construct a table on the distribution of land among the 450 families of Palampur.**Answer:**

The distribution of land among the 450 families of Palampur is as given below:

Area of land Cultivated	Number of Families
0	150
Less than 2 hectares	240
More than 2 hectares	60

5MARKS

1. Why are the wages for farm labourers in Palampur less than minimum wages?

Answer:

There are many landless farm labourers who are paid less than the minimum wages in Palampur. The Government-declared wage for a farm labourer is Rs 300 per day, but the competition for work among the farm labourers is very high, which is why people agree to work for lower wages.

2. What are the different ways of increasing production on the same piece of land? Use examples to explain.

Answer:

To grow more than one crop on a piece of land during the year is known as multiple cropping. It is the most common way of increasing production on a given piece of land. The best example of this is the cultivation in Palampur. In Palampur, jowar and bajra grow during the rainy season, followed by potato between October and December, and during the winter season, wheat is sown in the fields. The main reason for this is the well-developed system of irrigation.

3. Describe the work of a farmer with 1 hectare of land.**Answer:**

A farmer with 1 hectare of land will be called a small farmer. Since the area for cultivation is small, the outcome may also not be high. So, in order to be able to get the best possible yield, the farmer needs money. This money is borrowed from a moneylender at a high interest rate and at times may also have to work as a farm labourer for the moneylender. Once the farm is cultivated, the produce has to be divided for personal use and for selling in the market. Whatever profit is earned, the farmer has to usually give it away to the moneylender, and little money is left for the use of the farmer himself. The only help a small farmer gets is that of his family members.

4. How do the medium and large farmers obtain capital for farming? How is it different from the small farmers?**Answer:**

Large and medium farmers sell surplus farm products from a part of their produce. A part of the earnings is saved and kept for buying capital for the next season. A few of them give away the savings to small farmers and loans at high interest rates and get back the amount by the next season. Thus, they are able to arrange for the capital for farming from their own savings. Some farmers might also use the savings to buy cattle, trucks, or to set up shops.

5. On what terms did Savita get a loan from Tejpal Singh? Would Savita's condition be different if she could get a loan from the bank at a low rate of interest?

Answer:

Savita got a loan from Tejpal Singh at the rate of interest of 24 per cent for four months and also had to work for Tejpal Singh as a farm labourer at the wage of Rs 100 per day during the harvest season.

The case would have been different if Savita had taken the loan from a bank. The rate of interest would have been lesser than what was asked by Tejpal Singh and also she would have been able to pay complete attention to her own field during the time of harvest.

7.What do you mean by working capital?

Answer:

Production requires a variety of raw materials such as the yarn used by the weaver and the clay used by the potter. Also, some money is always required during production to make payments and buy other necessary items. Raw materials and money in hand are called working capital. Unlike tools, machines and buildings, these are used up in production.

8.What was the major disadvantage associated with HYV seeds? Explain.

Answer:

The biggest disadvantage associated with HYV seeds is the requirement of plenty of water and chemical fertilisers and pesticides to produce best results. Higher yields are possible only from combination of HYV seeds, irrigation, chemical fertilisers, pesticides, etc. Chemical fertilisers and pesticides degrade our environment by killing necessary bacteria in soil. Poor farmers can not afford HYV seeds due to increased requirement of fertilisers and machinery. New machinery replaced manual labour leading to unemployment and rural-urban migration.

9.Discuss dairy farming, a non-farming, activity in village Palampur, in detail.

Answer:

Dairy is a common activity in many families of Palampur. People feed their buffalos on various kinds of grass, the jowar and bajra that grow during the rainy season. The milk is sold in Raiganj, the nearby large village.

Two traders from Shahpur town have set up collection cum chilling centers at Raiganj from where the milk is transported to far away towns and cities

Choose the correct answer

1.What is the main economic activity in Palampur?

- a) Agriculture
- b) Manufacturing
- c) Mining
- d) Services

Answer:(a)

2. Which of the following is a multiple-cropping practice in Palampur?

- a) Growing only wheat
- b) Growing wheat and rice together
- c) Growing only rice
- d) Growing only vegetables

Answer:(b)

3. What is the main source of irrigation in Palampur?

- a) Canals
- b) Tube wells
- c) Rainwater
- d) Rivers

Answer:(b)

4. Which sector provides the largest employment in Palampur?

- a) Agriculture
- b) Manufacturing
- c) Services
- d) Education

Answer:(a)

5. What percentage of the population in Palampur is engaged in non-farm activities?

- a) 10%
- b) 25%
- c) 50%
- d) 75%

Answer:(b)

6. What is the main reason for the dependence on moneylenders in Palampur?

- a) Lack of education
- b) High interest rates
- c) Lack of access to banks
- d) Lack of job opportunities

Answer:(c)

7. What is the main source of income for landless laborers in Palampur?

- a) Agriculture
- b) Dairy farming
- c) Weaving
- d) Daily wages

Answer:(d)

8. Which of the following is a modern farming practice adopted in Palampur?

- a) Traditional ploughing
- b) Manual sowing
- c) Use of chemical fertilizers
- d) Non-irrigated farming

Answer:(c)

9. How are wages paid to farm laborers in Palampur?

- a) In cash
- b) In kind
- c) In the form of goods
- d) In barter system

Answer:(a)

10. Which organization provides the necessary credit for farming in Palampur?

- a) Banks
- b) Moneylenders
- c) Government cooperatives
- d) NGOs

Answer:(c)

Fill in the blanks

- 1.Machinery, work plants, equipments, new technology, buildings are the example of **Fixed capital**
- 2.Consumption of chemical fertilisers is highest in which State of India? **Punjab**
- 3.The quality of resources which can be improved through investment in education and training is the **Human capital**
- 4.To grow more than one crop on a piece of land during the year is called **Multiple cropping.**
- 5.One of the important non-farming activities besides farming in Palampur is **Dairy farming.**