

Farming in India – SSC Notes

1. Definition of Farming

- Farming / Agriculture: Science & practice of cultivating land, growing crops, and rearing animals for food, fiber, and other products
- Importance: Food security, employment, rural economy, export

2. Types of Farming in India

A. Subsistence Farming

- Purpose: For self-consumption, not profit
- Location: Himalayan foothills, North-East, Kerala, Odisha
- Characteristics: Small holdings, low productivity, traditional tools

B. Commercial Farming

- Purpose: Production for market / profit
- Location: Punjab, Haryana, Western UP, Maharashtra, Karnataka
- Characteristics: Large holdings, high yield, modern techniques

C. Intensive Farming

- Purpose: Maximum output per unit area
- Location: Indo-Gangetic Plains
- Features: Irrigation, chemical fertilizers, high labor input

D. Extensive Farming

- Purpose: Large area, low input per unit area
- Location: Rajasthan, Madhya Pradesh, Chhattisgarh
- Features: Low yield, rain-fed

E. Plantation Farming

- Purpose: Commercial crops grown on large estates
- Crops: Tea, Coffee, Rubber, Coconut, Sugarcane, Oil Palm
- Location:
 - Tea → Assam, Darjeeling, Nilgiris
 - Coffee → Karnataka, Kerala, Tamil Nadu
 - Rubber → Kerala, Karnataka
 - Sugarcane → Uttar Pradesh, Maharashtra, Karnataka

F. Mixed Farming

- Purpose: Combination of crops + livestock
- Location: Punjab, Haryana, Western UP

- **Features:** Reduces risk, provides organic manure

G. Dry / Rain-fed Farming

- **Purpose:** Crops grown in low rainfall areas without irrigation
- **Location:** Rajasthan, Gujarat, Maharashtra, Madhya Pradesh
- **Crops:** Millets, Pulses, Oilseeds

H. Wet / Irrigated Farming

- **Purpose:** Areas with abundant water supply
- **Location:** Indo-Gangetic Plains, Kerala, Tamil Nadu
- **Crops:** Rice, Sugarcane, Vegetables

3. Major Crops of India

Crop	Type	Major Producing States
Rice	Food crop	West Bengal, Punjab, Uttar Pradesh, Andhra Pradesh, Tamil Nadu
Wheat	Food crop	Punjab, Haryana, Uttar Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh
Millet s (Bajra, Jowar, Ragi)	Food crop	Rajasthan, Maharashtra, Karnataka
Sugarcane	Cash crop	Uttar Pradesh,

		Maharashtra, Karnataka
Cotton	Cash crop	Gujarat, Maharashtra, Telangana, Punjab
Tea	Plantation	Assam, West Bengal (Darjeeling), Kerala
Coffee	Plantation	Karnataka, Kerala, Tamil Nadu
Rubber	Plantation	Kerala, Karnataka
Oilseeds	Cash crop	Rajasthan, Madhya Pradesh, Gujarat

4. Farming Techniques / Practices

1. **Irrigation** → Canal, Well, Tube-well, Drip, Sprinkler
2. **Crop Rotation** → Maintains fertility → Wheat-Rice, Sugarcane-Legumes
3. **Multiple Cropping** → 2–3 crops per year → Punjab, Haryana
4. **Mixed Farming** → Crops + Livestock → Organic manure, risk reduction
5. **Modern Farming** → HYV seeds, Fertilizers, Pesticides, Mechanization

5. Important SSC Points – Farming

- **Green Revolution** → Punjab, Haryana, Western UP → Wheat & Rice → High yield varieties, irrigation, fertilizers
- **Crops** → Food crops (Rice, Wheat, Millets), Cash crops (Cotton, Sugarcane, Oilseeds), Plantation (Tea, Coffee, Rubber)
- **Irrigation** → Canal, Well, Tube-well, Drip, Sprinkler
- **Farming types** → Subsistence, Commercial, Intensive, Extensive, Plantation, Mixed, Dry & Wet
- **Regions** → Rice → Eastern & Southern India; Wheat → Northern Plains; Cotton → Deccan & Gujarat; Tea → Assam, Nilgiris; Coffee → Karnataka & Kerala