

# CHAPTER 2.4

## Agriculture

### ONE MARK QUESTIONS

1. Name the crops for which India is the largest producer in the world.

**Ans :** [CBSE 2011]  
Fruits and vegetables, oilseeds and pulses

2. By which name is specialized cultivation of fruits and vegetables known?

**Ans :** [CBSE S.P. 2016-17]  
Horticulture.

3. Describe 'Jhumming cultivation' in one sentence.

**Ans :** [CBSE S.P. 2016-17]  
'Slash and burn' cultivation in North- Eastern states of India.

4. Which is the leading coffee producer state in India?

**Ans :** [CBSE S.R 2016-17]  
Karnataka.

5. By which other name is 'slash and burn' agriculture known?

**Ans :** [CBSE 2014]  
Primitive subsistence farming/jhumming  
(Any one)

6. In which country the 'slash and burn' agriculture is known as 'Roca'?

**Ans :** [CBSE 2012]  
Brazil.

7. Hoe, dao, digging sticks are associated with which type of farming?

**Ans :** [CBSE 2012]  
Primitive subsistence farming.

8. Which crop is grown with the onset monsoons and are harvested in the month of September and October?

**Ans :** [CBSE 2000]  
Kharif.

9. Which crop is the major crop of rabi? [CBSE 2014]

**Ans :**  
Wheat

10. Name some rabi crops. [CBSE 2015]

**Ans :**  
Wheat, barley, peas, gram and mustard.

11. Name the two important wheat growing zones in India.

**Ans :** [CBSE 2015]

The Ganga-Satluj plains in the north-west and black soil region of the Deccan.

12. In which system of agriculture, a single crop is grown on a large area? [CBSE 2016]

**Ans :**  
Plantation agriculture.

13. Name some plantation crops. [CBSE 2016]

**Ans :**  
Tea, coffee, rubber, sugarcane and banana.

14. Which type of farming is intensive subsistence farming? [CBSE 2015]

**Ans :**  
Labour intensive farming.

15. Which two areas of India produce oranges mainly?

**Ans :** [CBSE 2015]  
Nagpur in Maharashtra and Madhya Pradesh.

16. Which country is the first largest producer of rice?

**Ans :** [CBSE 2017]  
China,

17. India is the largest producer as well as consumer of which agricultural product in the world?

**Ans :** [CBSE 2014]  
Pulses.

18. Which crop is used both as food and fodder?

**Ans :** [CBSE 2015]  
Maize.

19. Which crop is known as golden fibre?

**Ans :** [CBSE 2015]  
Jute.

20. Which state is the largest producer of ragi?

**Ans :** [CBSE 2016]  
Karnataka.

21. In which type of soil does maize grow well?

**Ans :** [CBSE 2016]  
Old alluvial.

### THREE MARKS QUESTIONS

22. "Dense and efficient network of transport is a pre-requisite for local and national development". Analyse the statement.

**Ans :** [CBSE 2018]

- The pace of development of country depends upon the production of goods and services as well as their movement over space. Therefore efficient means of transport are pre-requisite for national development.
- Today, the world has been converted into a large village with the help of efficient and fast moving transport system.
- The trades from local to international levels have added to the vitality of our economy with the help of dense and efficient network of transport in the country. It has enriched our life and added substantially to growing amenities and facilities for the comforts of life.

23. Which are the two main cropping seasons in India? Mention their growing and harvesting periods.

**Ans :** [CBSE 2015]

The two main cropping seasons are Rabi and Kharif:

- Rabi crops are sown in winter from October to December and harvested in summer from April to June.
- Kharif crops are sown with the onset of monsoon in different parts of the country and harvested in September-October.

24. What are the growing conditions required for the main staple food crop of India? Mention the main growing regions. [CBSE 2014]

**Ans :**

Growing conditions required for rice:

- High temperature (above 25°C). It is a Kharif crop.
- High humidity with annual rainfall above 100 cm.

Main growing regions: Northern plains, northeastern India, Coastal areas, deltaic plains and river valleys.

25. Describe the institutional and technical changes introduced in the field of agriculture in India in the recent years. [CBSE 2014]

or

What were the attributes of the comprehensive land development programme initiated in India in the decade 1980 and 1990. [CBSE2015]

or

Describe any three technological and institutional reforms made in the field of agriculture in India.

**Ans :** [CBSE 2015]

- Land reforms: collectivization, consolidation of holdings, cooperation and abolition of zamindari.
- Agricultural reforms: Green revolution and White

revolution.

- Land development programmes : Provision for crop insurance against drought, flood, cyclone etc., establishment of Grameen banks, Cooperative societies and banks for providing loans.
- Issuing of Kissan Credit Card and Personal Accident Insurance Scheme, etc.
- Special weather bulletins and agricultural programmes for farmers on radio and TV.

26. Explain any two geographical conditions required for the cultivation of pulses. Name any two important pulses producing states. [CBSE2013]

or

Why the pulses are mostly grown in rotation with other crops? Name any two major pulse producing states?

**Ans :** [CBSE 2011]

Pulses are mostly grown in rotation with other crops because:

- Pulses need less moisture and survive even in dry conditions.
- Being leguminous crops, all these crops

Major pulse producing states are : Madhya Pradesh and Uttar Pradesh.

27. Give an account of oilseeds in India. State the importance of groundnut and name the states where it is grown. [CBSE 2013]

or

Describe the uses of oilseeds? Which state is the largest producer of groundnut?

**Ans :** [CBSE 2011]

Importance:

- Are edible and used as cooking medium.
- Used as raw material in production of soap, cosmetics and ointment.
- India-largest producer.

Groundnut:

- Kharif crop.
- Accounts half of the total oilseed production.
- State: Andhra Pradesh, Tamil Nadu, Karnataka, Gujarat and Maharashtra.

### FIVE MARKS QUESTIONS

28. "The Government of India has introduced various institutional and technological reforms to improve agriculture in the 1980s and 1990s". Support this statement with examples. [CBSE 2018]

or

Compare intensive subsistence farming with that of commercial farming practiced in India.

**Ans :** [CBSE 2018]

- 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 for providing loan facilities to the farmers at lower rates of interest were some important steps in this direction.
- Kissan Credit Card (KCC), personal accident

insurance scheme are some other schemes introduced by the government of India for the benefit of the farmers.

- d. Special weather bulletins and agricultural programmes for farmers were introduced on the radio and television.
- e. The government also announces minimum support price, remunerative and procurement prices for important crops to check the exploitation of farmers by speculators and middlemen.

or

	Intensive Subsistence Farming	Commercial Farming
1.	This type of farming is practised in areas of high population pressure on land.	In this type of farming single crop is grown on a large area.
2.	It is labour-intensive farming, where high doses of biochemical inputs and irrigation are used for obtaining higher production.	The main characteristic of this type of farming is the use of higher doses of modern inputs e.g. HYV seeds, chemical fertilisers, insecticides and pesticides in order to obtain higher productivity.
3.	Though the 'right of inheritance leading to the division of land among successive generation has rendered land-holding size. Uneconomical the farmers continue to take maximum output from the limited land in the absence of alternative source of livelihood.	In commercial farming plantation has an interface of agriculture and industry. It covers large tracts of land using capital intensive inputs, with the help of migrant labourers.
4.	In this type of farming crops are grown for family consumption.	Crops are mainly grown for the market or used in industry as raw material.
5.	Rice, wheat, maize, are mainly grown with the help of traditional tools.	Tea, coffee, sugarcane, rubber, banana etc. are grown with the help of modern inputs.

29. What are millets? Give brief description of the climatic conditions and producing states of the millets grown in India. [CBSE S.R 2016-17]

**Ans :**

Millets are coarse grains but have high nutritional value e.g., ragi-rich in iron, calcium.

- a. Jowar-Rain fed crops mostly grown in moist area. States producing-Maharashtra, Karnataka and MP.
- b. Bajra-grown well on sandy soils and shallow black soil. States producing- Rajasthan, Maharashtra, Gujarat, Haryana and UP.

- c. Ragi-grown well in dry region on red, black, sandy and loamy soils.

States producing-Tamil Nadu, Himachal Pradesh, Uttarakhand and Sikkim.

30. Which crop is known as the 'golden fibre'? Explain any two geographical conditions essential for the cultivation of this crop. Mention its any four uses. [CBSE S.R 2016-17]

**Ans :**

- a. Jute is called the golden fibre.
- b. Geographical conditions:
- c. Grows well in drained fertile soil of the flood plains where the soil is renewed every year.
- d. High temperature is required during the time of growth.

Uses: Can be used to manufacture gunny bags, mats, ropes, yam, carpets and other artefacts.

31. Name any four oilseeds produced in India. Explain the importance of oilseeds in our day-to-day life.

**Ans :**

[CBSE S.R 2016-17]

- (i) Groundnut
- (ii) Mustard
- (iii) Coconut
- (iv) Sesamun
- (v) Soyabean, sunflower; etc.

Importance of oilseeds:

Most of these are edible in the form of oil. Used as raw material for manufacturing paints, varnishes, soaps, perfumes etc, oil cake is used as cattle feed. Oil cake is also used as a fertiliser.

32. Mention any two geographical conditions required for the growth of maize crop in India. Describe any three factors which have contributed to increase in maize production.

**Ans :**

[CBSE 2016]

Geographical conditions required for the growth of maize crop in India:

- a. It is a kharif crop which requires temperature between 21°C to 27°C.
- b. It grows well in alluvial soil.

Use of modern inputs such as HYV seeds, fertilisers and irrigation have contributed to the increasing production of maize.

33. Explain any three geographical conditions required for the growth of rice in India. How is it possible to grow rice in areas of less rainfall? Explain with examples.

**Ans :**

[CBSE 2015]

Three geographical conditions for the growth of rice:

- a. It requires high temperature, (above 25°C).
- b. Annual rainfall above 100 cm.

c. High humidity

It is possible to grow rice in areas of less rainfall with the help of irrigation in Punjab and Haryana.

**34.** Why has the agriculture sector in India got a major setback in spite of increase in the GDP growth rate? [CBSE 2015]

**Ans :**

- More and more land is used for construction of factories, warehouses and shelters which reduced the land under cultivation.
- Soil gets degraded by the use of pesticides, fertilizers, over irrigation, etc., which leads to water logging and salinity.
- Today Indian farmers are facing a big challenge from international competition.
- Our government is reducing the public investment in agriculture, subsidy on fertilizers have decreased.
- Reduction in import duties on agricultural products have proved detrimental to agriculture in the country.

**35.** What are the climatic conditions required for the growth of rice? [CBSE 2014]

**Ans :**

Climatic conditions required for the growth of rice:

- It is a Kharif crop which requires high temperature (above 25°C).
- High humidity with annual rainfall above 100 cm.
- In the areas of less rainfall, it grows with the help of irrigation.
- It is grown in the plains of north and north-eastern India, coastal areas and the deltaic regions.
- Development of dense network of canal irrigation and tubewells have made it possible to grow rice in areas of less rainfall such as Punjab and Haryana.

**36.** Suggest any five measures to enhance the agricultural production in India. [CBSE 2014]

or

Explain any five institutional and technical reforms brought by the government to improve the condition of Indian Agriculture. [CBSE 2012,2011,2010]

or

Describe any five steps taken by the government of India to increase the productivity of agriculture in India.

**Ans :** [CBSE 2012]

- Land reforms: Collectivisation, consolidation of holdings, cooperation and abolition of zamindari.
- Agricultural reforms: Green revolution and White revolution.
- Land development programmes: Provision for crop insurance against drought, flood, cyclone, etc, establishment of Grameen banks, Cooperative societies and banks for providing loans.
- Issuing of Kissan Credit Card and Personal Accident Insurance Scheme, etc.
- Special weather bulletins and agricultural programmes for farmers on radio and TV.
- Government announces Minimum Support Price (MSP) and remunerative and procurement prices to check exploitation.

7. The government provides HYV seeds and fertilisers.

8. Government provides technical assistance and training for farmers.

9. Soil testing facilities, cold storage and transportation facilities are provided by government for farmers.

**37.** Define plantation agriculture. Explain any four characteristics of plantation agriculture.

**Ans :** [CBSE 2012]

Plantation Agriculture: It is a type of commercial farming practised in tropical and sub-tropical regions. It was introduced by the British in India.

Characteristics:

- A single crop is grown over large area.
- It is capital intensive and done with migrant labour.
- All produce is used as raw material in industries such as tea, coffee, rubber, sugarcane, banana, etc.
- Plantation has interface of agriculture and industry both.

**38.** "Wheat and rice farming in India are fairly different from each other". Support the statement with five suitable examples. [CBSE 2012]

or

Wheat and rice farming in India are fairly different from each other. Explain.

**Ans :** [CBSE 2011]

	Basis of difference	Weat	Rice
1.	Rainfall	50-75 cm	Above 100 cm
2.	Temperature	15° cm	Above 25° cm
3.	Area wise Distribution	North and North-west	Planes of north and north-west part of the country
4.	Type of Crop	Rabi	Kharif
5.	M a j o r Producer	Punjab	West Bengal

**39.** Distinguish between primitive subsistence farming and commercial farming by stating five points of distinction.

**Ans :** [CBSE2012]

	Subsistence farming	Commercial farming
1.	It is practised on small patches.	It is practised on a large scale.
2.	Farming depends on Irrigation	Irrigation facilities are available.
3.	Primitive tools are used.	Modern technology is used.
4.	Production is low.	Production is high.
5.	No costly fertilisers are used.	Chemical fertilisers are used.
6.	Family members provide labour.	Labourers are hired.

	Subsistence farming	Commercial farming
7.	Only cereals and other food crops are grown	Commercial crops are grown.

40. Describe any four geographical conditions required for the growth of tea. Mention the two major tea producing states of South India. [CBSE 2012]

or

Name the important beverage crop introduced by the British in India. Explain the geographical conditions needed for its cultivation. Write any two important states where it is grown.

or

In which agricultural production, India is the leading producer as well as exporter in world? Describe the geographical requirements for its growth and development. [CBSE 2012]

or

What are the soil type, climatic conditions and rainfall conditions required for the cultivation of tea? Write two states of India where tea grows.

**Ans :** [CBSE 2011]

- Tea: Grows well in tropical and sub-tropical climates.
- Soil type: Deep and fertile, well-drained soil, rich in humus and organic matters.
- Climate: Warm and moist, frost-free climate throughout the year.
- Rainfall: Frequent showers throughout the year.
- Two states: Assam, West Bengal, Kerala, Tamil Nadu, Himachal Pradesh, Uttarakhand, Andhra Pradesh, Meghalaya and Tripura.

41. Describe four geographical conditions required for the growth of sugarcane. Name two major sugarcane producing states of North India. [CBSE 2012]

or

What geographical conditions are required for the cultivation of sugarcane? Name two largest producing states of sugarcane.

**Ans :** [CBSE 2011,2010]

Geographical conditions required for the growth of sugarcane in India:

- It is a tropical as well as sub-tropical crop so it requires a hot and humid climate with a temperature of 24°C to 27°C.
- It requires an annual rainfall between 75 to 100 cm.
- It can be grown on a variety of soils.
- Major sugarcane producing states of North
- India are : Uttar Pradesh, Bihar, Punjab and Haryana.

42. Which are the two major cotton producing states of North India ? Describe four geographical conditions required for the growth of cotton. [CBSE 2012]

or

Describe the geographical conditions required for the cultivation of cotton.

**Ans :** [CBSE 2011]

Haryana and Uttar Pradesh are the two major cotton producing states of North India.

**Geographical conditions required for the cultivation of cotton:**

- It grows well in drier parts of the black cotton soil of the Deccan plateau.
- It requires high temperature.
- It requires light rainfall or irrigation.
- It requires 21 frost free days and bright sunshine for its growth.

43. Explain Rubber cultivation in India under the following heads:

- Importance
- Geographical conditions
- Producing states.

**Ans :** [CBSE 2011,12]

- Importance: Many industries depend upon rubber as their raw material especially transport industry.
- Geographical conditions:
  - It is an equatorial crop, but under special conditions it is also grown in tropical and sub tropical areas.
  - It requires moist and humid climate with rainfall of more than 200 cm and temperature above 25°C.
- Rubber producing states are Kerala, Tamil Nadu, Karnataka, Andaman and Nicobar Islands and Garo hills of Meghalaya.

44. Explain any four features of primitive subsistence agriculture in India.

**Ans :** [CBSE2011]

Features of primitive subsistence agriculture in India are:

- It is practised on small patches of land with the help of primitive tools.
- Tools which are used are basically traditional tools such as hoe, dao and digging stick.
- This type of agriculture totally depends upon monsoon.
- When the soil fertility decreases, the farmers shift to another plot of land.

45. What is intensive subsistence farming? Write three features of intensive farming. [CBSE 2011]

**Ans :**

Intensive subsistence farming is practised in areas of high population pressure on land. In this type of farming, the agricultural production is increased by using high doses of biochemical inputs and better agricultural inputs.

Features of intensive farming:

- High yielding variety (HYV) seeds and modern chemical inputs and irrigation are used to increase the production.
- The per hectare yield is very high.

c. More than one crop is cultivated during a year.

46. Compare the geographical conditions required for the production of cotton and jute. [CBSE 2012]

Ans :

	Cotton	Jute
1.	Cotton requires more than 21°C of temperature	Jute requires 30° temperature.
2.	Rainfall: 50-100 cm	Rainfall: Near about 150 cm.
3.	Frost free days are must during Picking days	Hot and humid climate is required.
4.	Loamy and black soil is required.	Well-drained fertile loamy soil is required.
5.	Mainly grown in Maharashtra and Gujarat.	Grown in eastern states of the country.

47. Why is agriculture called the mainstay of Indian economy?

or

What is the importance of agriculture in Indian economy?

Ans : [CBSE 2013]

- Agriculture is the mainstay of Indian economy because about 67% of our population depends directly or indirectly on agriculture.
  - It provides raw materials to the industries.
  - India earns foreign exchange by exporting agricultural products.
  - It contributes about 29% to the gross domestic product.
  - It provides food to over 1250 million population.
48. Why has Indian agriculture started a decline in the trend of food production? How can we overcome this problem?

[CBSE 2011]

Ans :

Indian agriculture started a decline in the trend of food production because:

- More and more land is used for construction of factories, warehouses and shelters have reduced the land under cultivation.
- Soil gets degraded by the use of pesticides, fertilizers, over-irrigation, etc. which leads to water logging and salinity.

Remedial Measures:

- Use of agricultural techniques which are environmentally sustainable.
- Use of biotechnology in modifying different crops and increase the yield per hectare. It reduces dependence on insecticides and also require less water.