

## Short Answer Questions

### Q. 1. What is primitive subsistence farming?

**Ans. (i)** It is practised on small patches of land with the help of primitive tools.

**(ii)** This type of farming depends upon the monsoons and natural fertility of the soil.

**(iii)** It is also called 'slash and burn' agriculture.

### Q. 2. What is 'slash and burn' agriculture?

**Ans. (i)** In this agriculture, farmers clear a patch of land and produce cereals and other crops to sustain their families.

**(ii)** When the soil fertility decreases, the farmers shift and clear a fresh patch of land for cultivation.

**(iii)** This type of shifting allows nature to replenish the fertility of the soil through natural processes.

Land productivity in this type of agriculture is low, as the farmers do not use fertilisers or any modern inputs.

### Q. 3. Describe the three cropping seasons of India.

**Ans. (i) Rabi season:**

- a. Crops sown in winters and harvested in summers.
- b. Some of the important rabi crops are wheat, barley, peas, gram and mustard.
- c. States growing rabi crops are: Punjab, Haryana, Himachal, Jammu and Kashmir, Uttarakhand and Uttar Pradesh.

**(ii) Kharif season:**

- a. Crops grown with the onset of monsoons and harvested in September or October.
- b. Important Kharif growing states are: Assam, West Bengal, coastal regions of Odisha, Andhra Pradesh, Tamil Nadu, Kerala and Maharashtra.
- c. Crops grown during this season are: rice, maize, jowar, bajra, tur, moong, urad, cotton, jute, groundnut and soyabean.

**(iii) Zaid season:**

- a. It falls in between the rabi and kharif seasons.
- b. It's a short season during the summer months.
- c. Major crops grown are: watermelon, muskmelon, cucumbers, vegetables and fodder crops.

**Q. 4. Which important millets are grown in India? Give a brief description about them.**

**Ans.** Jowar, Bajra and Ragi are three important millets.

**(i) Ragi:** Ragi is very rich in iron, calcium, and other micro nutrients and roughage. It is a crop of dry regions and grows well on red, black, sandy, loamy and shallow black soils. Karnataka is the largest producer followed by Tamil Nadu.

**(ii) Jowar:** It is a rain fed crop mostly grown in the moist areas which hardly needs irrigation. Maharashtra is the largest producer followed by Karnataka, Andhra Pradesh and Madhya Pradesh.

**(iii) Bajra:** It grows well on sandy soils and shallow black soil. Rajasthan is the largest producer of bajra followed by Uttar Pradesh, Maharashtra, Gujarat and Haryana.

**Q. 5. What do you know about rubber plantation in India?**

**Ans. (i)** Rubber is an equatorial crop but is also grown in tropical and sub-tropical areas.

**(ii)** It requires moist and humid climate with rainfall of more than 200 cm and temperature above 25°C.

**(iii)** It is grown in Kerala, Tamil Nadu, Karnataka, Andaman and Nicobar Islands and Garo hills of Meghalaya.

India ranks fifth among the world's largest natural rubber producers.

**Q. 6. What climatic conditions are required for growing cotton?**

**Ans. (i)** Cotton grows well in drier parts of the black cotton soil of the Deccan Plateau.

**(ii)** It requires high temperature, light rainfall or irrigation.

**(iii)** It also requires 210 frost free days and bright sunshine for its growth.

It's a Kharif crop and requires 6 to 8 months to mature.

**Q. 7. Write any three changes in Indian agriculture after the Green Revolution.**

**Ans. (i)** HYV seeds are used for better output of some major crops like wheat and rice.

**(ii)** For irrigation, canals are laid to provide water to all water scarce states.

**(iii)** Use of fertilisers, insecticides and pesticides has enhanced the production of various crops.

**Q. 8. Differentiate between commercial farming and plantation farming.**

**Ans.**

<b>Commercial farming</b>	<b>Plantation farming</b>
(i) In this type of farming, crops are grown only for commercial purposes.	(i) In this type of farming, a single crop is grown on a large area.
(ii) Farmers make use of higher doses of modern inputs, HYV seeds, chemical fertilisers, insecticides, etc.	(ii) Labour is employed to work in large tracts of land, using capital intensive devices.
(iii) E.g.: Rice is a commercial crop in Haryana and Punjab.	(iii) E.g.: Tea Gardens produce tea, and coffee plantations produce coffee.

**Q. 9. How is commercial farming practised in India?**

**OR**

**What is the main characteristic of commercial farming?**

**Ans.** The main characteristic of this type of farming is the production of a commercial crop. In this type of farming, High Yielding Variety (HYV) seeds, chemical fertilisers, insecticides, pesticides, etc. are used to obtain higher productivity. The degree of commercialisation varies from one region to another.

**Q. 10. Which oilseeds are grown in India and what are the uses?**

**Ans.** India is the largest producer of oilseeds in the world. Different types of oilseeds are grown in India. Main oilseeds produced in India are groundnut, mustard, coconut, sesame, soyabean, castor seeds, cotton seeds, linseed and sunflower. Most of these are edible and used as cooking medium. However some of these are also used as raw material in the production of soap, cosmetics and ointments.

**Q. 11. What do you understand by 'Bhoodan' and 'Gramdan'?**

**Ans.** Some poor landless villagers demanded some land for their economic well-being. Vinoba Bhave could not assure but promised to talk to the government regarding that. Suddenly Shri Ram Chandra Reddy, stood up and offered 80 acres of land to be distributed among 80 landless villagers. This act was known as 'Bhoodan'. Similarly, some zamindars, owners of many villages, offered to distribute some villages among the landless. It was known as 'Gramdan'.

This Gramdan & Bhoodan movement was initiated by Vinoba Bhave. It is also known as the 'Bloodless Revolution'.

**Q. 12. Is India an agrarian country?**

**Ans.** Yes, India is an agrarian country

Two-thirds of its population is engaged in agricultural activities.

Agriculture is a primary activity, which produces most of the food that we consume.

Besides food grains, it also produces raw material for various industries.

Moreover, some agricultural products like tea, coffee, spices, etc. are also exported.