CBSE Test Paper 03

Ch-15 India Land Resource and Agriculture

1. Name the programmes initiated in the end of 1960 for development of agriculture.
2. How do you measure total cultivable land?
3. Which department is responsible for measuring the Geographical area?
4. How is the cropping intensity calculated in India?
5. Name the categories of land use which have shown decline since independence and why.
6. Why is land resource more crucial to the livelihood of the people depending on agriculture.
7. How does uneven distribution of land create hurdle in development of agriculture?
8. India has first position in the production of jute. Substantiate.
9. How the small size of landholdings and degradation of cultivable land are the two major problems of Indian agriculture? Explain both these problems with examples.
10. Inspite of significant developments Indian agriculture suffers from certain problems. Explain.

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Answer

1. Green revolution or package technology or the usage of HYV seeds was initiated in the end of 1960s for development of agriculture.

2. Total cultivable land is calculated by adding up net sown area, all fallow lands, and cultivable wasteland.

3. The Survey of India is responsible for measuring the Geographical area.

4. Cropping intensity is calculated in percentage by using the following formula:
   Cropping Intensity (CI) = $\frac{Gross\ Cropped\ Area}{Net\ Sown\ Area} \times 100$

5. i. Wastelands and culturable wastelands have witnessed decline because of the pressure on land increased from the agriculture and non- agricultural sectors.
   ii. The decline in net sown area is due to increase in area under non-agricultural use.
   iii. The decline in land under pastures grazing lands is due to pressure from agricultural land. Illegal encroachment is responsible for the decline.

6. Land resource is more crucial to the livelihood of the people depenending on agriculture because:

   i. Agriculture is a purely land based activity.
   ii. It is also because the basic requirement for agriculture is land.All the practises of agriculture are done on land.
   iii. Land acts as a guarantee for loans and credit requirements.
   iv. Land ownership in rural areas also has a social value.

7. Uneven distribution of land creates problem in development of agriculture because it creates inequalities of income. Rich farmers get the benefits of government policies but the poor are ignored. Green Revolution benefitted to the large farmers more than small farmers.

8. India is the largest jute producing country in the world, with annual production

estimated at more 1.968 million tonnes. The prominence of India in the global production of jute is attributed to improvements in the crop cultivation process, as well as the use of technology in jute farming.In 2011, India imported over 337,000 tonnes of jute and jute products to meet domestic demand. West Bengal accounts for as much as 50% of the country's total jute production. Other major jute producing regions in the country include Bihar, Uttar Pradesh, Meghalaya, Assam, and Orissa.

9. **Small Size of Land Holdings:**

    i. Most of the Indian farmers are small and marginal. About 60% of land-holdings are smaller than one hectare and about 40% of land-holdings are smaller than 0.5 hectares.
    ii. The average size of a farm in India is much smaller than in developed countries. This average size of the farm is becoming smaller every year, because of increasing population pressure.
    iii. Many farmers have two or more farms of small size. It reduces the effort of a farmer in production.
    iv. Small and fragmented lands are less productive.
    v. Government has taken steps to solve this problem by the consolidation of holdings, but it has not been implemented successfully.
    vi. In non-irrigated rainfed areas, the problem of land degradation also exists. Land degradation in these areas is caused by soil erosion from water and wind. These causes are also increased by human activities in these areas.

    Degradation of Cultivable Land:

    i. A large tract of agricultural land has lost its fertility due to alkalisation and sanitation of soils and waterlogging.
    ii. Alkalinity and salinity have already affected about 8 million lands.
    iii. Another 7 million ha land in the country has lost its fertility due to waterlogging.
    iv. Excessive use of chemicals such as insecticides and pesticides has led to their concentration in toxic amounts in the soil profile.

10. It is true that there is a significant development in Indian agriculture but it is still low in comparison to the developed countries of the world. Several factors are responsible

for these situations. These are:

i. **Environmental factors:** The most serious problem is the erratic nature of monsoons. The period of rainfall is limited and it is highly variable and uncertain. This situation affects agricultural development.
ii. **Economic factors:** Indian agriculture is today well on road of industry and commerce. For good agriculture, some investments have to be made. The investment on tractors, HYV seeds and fertilizers etc. to make agriculture a profitable enterprise.
iii. **Institutional factors:** Due to the increasing pressure of population on the cropped land, the size of land-holdings are also being uneconomic and getting smaller and fragmented. It is the major obstacle in the way of modernization of agriculture.
iv. **Technological factors:** Agricultural techniques are old and inefficient, mechanisation is very limited. The only one-third area is under irrigation. These conditions keep the agriculture productivity and intensification of farming at a low level.
v. **Inadequate irrigation facilities:** Agriculture in India depends on monsoonal rainfall. Due to uncertain and variable rainfall irrigation is necessary. Only 22% of cultivated land is under irrigation. Therefore, irrigation is required to increase yield productivity.