

# SOLVED QUESTIONS

## Short Answer Questions

Q.1. What is the importance of agriculture in India? Mention two factors. [2012]  
Ans. Agriculture is important in India as:

- (a) It provides employment to about 70% of the population.
- (b) It provides raw materials for the agro-based industries like cotton, jute, sugar and tobacco.

Q.2. Mention any two problems of agriculture in India. [2011]

- Ans. The two problems of agriculture in India are as follow:
- (a) Unreliable, seasonal and unequally distributed rainfall is the main cause of the failure of rain-fed crops.
  - (b) As the farmers are illiterate, they are not willing to use the modern scientific methods of cultivation.

Q.3. What is mixed farming? Mention any one benefit of mixed farming. [2017]

- Ans. Cultivation of crops and rearing of animals is done together on the same farm. Fruits and vegetables may be grown for a steady income when crops fail due to droughts or floods. Fodder is also grown for the animals.

Q.4. Mention any two features of plantation farming stating two examples. [2014]

- Ans. The characteristics of plantation farming are:
- (a) Vast estates are required.
  - (b) One crop is grown on a large scale mainly for export.
- Plantation farming was begun by colonial rulers who grew crops like rubber, tea, coffee etc. on large estates.

Q.5. With reference to rice cultivation, answer the following:

- (a) Why does rice grow well in a soil with a clay like subsoil?
- (b) What is the advantage of growing rice in nurseries before it is transplanted? [2016]

- Ans. (a) Rice grows well in a soil with a clay like subsoil as the water holding capacity of clayey soil is more over long periods. Rice cultivation requires large quantities of water.
- (b) When rice is grown in nurseries before being transplanted, there are advantages such as very low weed growth, less time period required for crop in the fields and more uniform plant population.

Q.6. With reference to rice cultivation, answer the following:

- (a) Name two leading states in the production of rice.
- (b) Give two advantages of growing rice in nurseries. [2013]

- Ans. (a) West Bengal and Andhra Pradesh are the two leading states in the production of rice.
- (b) Rice is grown in nurseries so that only the best and healthy plants can be transplanted into the flooded fields. This also results in increase in yield.

Q.7. Name the state where rice is grown almost exclusively as a cash crop. What makes rice the staple food crop of India?

- Ans. Punjab grows rice as a cash crop. Rice is a staple food crop of India and can be grown in a variety of climatic conditions. The shortage of water is compensated by adequate irrigational facilities. Wheat is largely consumed in the state and rice is sold.

Q.8. State two geographical requirements for the growth of wheat in India. [2011]

- Ans. Wheat requires rainfall between 50 cm and 100 cm and grows mainly in winter. Temperature required is between 10°C and 20°C in the early period of growth but 26°C and 28°C during the ripening period.



**Q.9. What are the requirements for the cultivation of wheat with reference to:**

(a) Soil

(b) Rainfall?

**Ans.** Requirements of wheat with reference to:

(a) **Soil:** Dry loamy soil or black cotton soil are most suitable. Soil should be easy and moisture retentive to hold the plant.

(b) **Rainfall:** Wheat requires rainfall between 50 cm–100 cm.

**Q.10. Which are the two staple food crops of India? Name against each the agricultural season in which it is grown.**

**Ans.** The two staple food crops are Rice and Wheat.

Rice–Kharif Crop (Summer),

Wheat–Rabi Crop (Winter).

**Q.11. Name a pulse crop cultivated in India:**

(a) during the kharif season.

(b) during the rabi season.

**Ans.** (a) Pulses grown during kharif Season—tur, moong and urad.

(b) Pulses grown during rabi Season—gram, peas and masoor.

**Q.12. State the three coarse grains (millets) grown in India. Name two states where these are grown on a large scale.**

**Ans.** The three millets grown in India are Jowar, Bajra and Ragi. These are grown on a large scale in Uttar Pradesh and Rajasthan.

**Q.13. Mention two different ways in which sugar cane is propagated.**

[2010]

**Ans.** Sugar cane is propagated by either the sett method or by ratooning.

**Q.14. Give one advantage and one disadvantage of ratoon cropping.**

**Ans. Advantage:** Ratoons mature earlier and cost of production is also less as no preparation of the field is required.

**Disadvantage:** Ratoons produce low quality crop as the canes are thinner with lower sucrose and there is also high risk of pests and diseases.

**Q.15. Mention two problems faced by the sugar cane cultivators in north India.**

**Ans.** The two problems faced by the sugar cane cultivators in North India are:

(a) Sugar cane is grown on 'small farms' and since it is soil exhausting, farmers have to depend on irrigation which increases the production costs.

(b) The sugar mills are old-fashioned and are far from the sugar farms leading to delay in crushing.

**Q.16. Give the geographical requirement for the cultivation of sugar cane.**

**Ans.** The geographical requirements for the cultivation of sugar cane are:

**Temperature:** Sugar cane crop requires the temperatures between 20°C and 30°C

**Rainfall:** Rainfall should be well distributed between 75 cm and 150 cm. Irrigation is best suited.

**Soil:** Deep, well drained, loamy soil.

**Q.17. Name the most important cash crop of West Bengal. Describe two geographical conditions which favours the growth of this crop.**

**Ans.** Jute is the most important cash crop of West Bengal. The two geographical conditions that favours its crops are:

Rainfall—170 cm to 200 cm, Temperature—24°C to 35°C.