

# Agriculture

## Q1. Answer the following questions.

### (i) What is agriculture?

**Answer:** Agriculture is a primary activity which includes growing crops, vegetables, fruits, flowers and Animal Husbandry. Agriculture is a primary activity as it is associated with the extraction and production of natural resources.

### (ii) Name the factors influencing agriculture?

**Answer:** Factors affecting agriculture include soil, climate, topography, population, etc.

### (iii) What is shifting cultivation? What are its disadvantages?

**Answer:** Shifting cultivation Farming or slash-and-burn farming is a type of farming activity that involves harvesting land, cutting trees, burning fallen trees, leveling ash with soil and then growing crops like maize, yam, potatoes and cassava. After the soil has lost its fertility, the land is released and the farmer moves to a new plot.

#### Disadvantages of shifting cultivation:

- (a) Deforestation
- (b) Loss of fertility of a particular land
- (c) Soil erosion
- (d) burning of trees causes air pollution
- (e) Insufficient cultivation of crops for a large population.

### (iv) What is plantation agriculture?

**Answer:** Plantation agriculture is a type of commercial farming where only one crop of tea, coffee, sugarcane, cashew, rubber, banana or cotton is grown. This type of farming requires a large amount of labor and capital. The produce is processed either on the farm or in nearby factories. Major plantations are found in tropical regions of the world, such as rubber in Malaysia, coffee in Brazil, tea in India and Sri Lanka.

### (v) Name the fibre crops and name the climatic conditions required for their growth.

**Answer:** Jute and cotton are known as fiber crops. Climate conditions necessary for their development are:

**Jute:** High temperature over 25 ° C, heavy rainfall, hot and humid climate.

**Cotton:** High temperature around 30 -40 ° C, low rainfall and most important 210 frost-free days and bright sunshine. Lots of cloudless sunny days are meant to grow cotton.

## Q2. Tick the correct answer.

### (i) Horticulture means

- (a) growing of fruits and vegetables
- (b) primitive farming
- (c) growing of wheat

**Answer:** A Growing of fruits and vegetables

### (ii) Golden fibre refers to

- (a) tea
- (b) cotton
- (c) jute

**Answer:** C Jute

**(iii) Leading producers of coffee**

- (a)** Brazil
- (b)** India
- (c)** Russia

**Answer A** Brazil

**Q3. Give reasons.**

**(i) In India agriculture is a primary activity.**

**Answer:** Agriculture is the transformation of a plant into a finished product. This includes activities that are related to the extraction and production of natural resources. Two-thirds of India's population is dependent on agriculture where people are engaged in crops, fruits, vegetables, flower growing and livestock rearing. Therefore, in India, agriculture is a primary activity.

**(ii) Different crops are grown in different regions.**

**Answer** Different crops are grown in different regions as the crops grow depending on factors such as favorable topography of the soil, yield demand, climate type, amount of rainfall, Technology and Labor.

**Q4. Distinguish between the following.**

**(i) Primary activities and tertiary activities**

**Answer:** Primary activities are related to production and extraction of natural resources such as fishing, agriculture, mining while tertiary activities which support primary and secondary sectors in carrying out activities like transportation, banking etc.

**(ii) Subsistence farming and intensive farming.**

**Answer:** Subsistence farming is a type of farming that a farmer does to meet the needs of his family. Crops are cultivated for personal consumption. It involves the use of low level technology and domestic labor for production on small scale. Whereas, in intensive subsistence farming, the farmer cultivates a small plot of land using simple means and more labor. Rice, wheat, maize, pulses and oilseeds are the crops grown in this type of farming. Intensive subsistence farming is prevalent in densely populated areas of monsoon area.