UNIQUE STUDY POINT

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Class: X	**Subject:** Social Science	**Session:** 2025-26
Chapter: 04 - Agriculture	**Time:** 1½ Hours	**Max. Marks:** 40

General Instructions:

1. All questions are compulsory.
2. This question paper contains 20 questions divided into five sections A, B, C, D and E.
3. Section A contains 10 MCQs of 1 mark each.
4. Section B contains 4 questions of 2 marks each.
5. Section C contains 3 questions of 3 marks each.
6. Section D contains 1 question of 5 marks.
7. Section E contains 2 Case Study Based questions of 4 marks each.

SECTION A - Multiple Choice Questions (1 mark each)

Q1. India is believed to be the original home of which plant?

(a) Tea

(b) Cotton

(c) Coffee

(d) Rubber

Q2. Which region has two important wheat-growing zones in India?

(a) Eastern plains and Coastal areas

(b) Ganga-Satluj plains and Black soil region of Deccan

(c) Himalayan region and Peninsular plateau

(d) Western ghats and Eastern ghats

Q3. Jute grows well in which type of plains?

(a) Desert plains

(b) Flood plains with well-drained fertile soils

(c) Mountain slopes

(d) Plateau regions

Q4. Which state is NOT a major jute producing state?

(a) West Bengal

(b) Bihar

(c) Punjab

(d) Assam

Q5. Where was coffee cultivation initially introduced in India?

(a) Nilgiri Hills

(b) Baba Budan Hills

(c) Western Ghats
(d) Eastern Ghats

Q6. What percentage of India's population is engaged in agricultural activities?
(a) One-third
(b) Half
(c) Two-thirds
(d) Three-fourths

Q7. The Bhoodan movement started in which state?
(a) Gujarat
(b) Maharashtra
(c) Andhra Pradesh
(d) Tamil Nadu

Q8. Which factor has NOT contributed to agricultural development in northwestern India?
(a) Western temperate cyclones
(b) Green Revolution
(c) Canal irrigation
(d) Tropical monsoons

Q9. India is the second largest producer of tea after:
(a) Sri Lanka
(b) Kenya
(c) China
(d) Japan

Q10. Which of the following is NOT a major cotton-producing state?
(a) Maharashtra
(b) Gujarat
(c) Kerala
(d) Karnataka

SECTION B - Short Answer Questions (2 marks each)

Q11. What are the four major fiber crops grown in India? How is silk different from the other three?

Q12. Explain why rice has become an important crop in Punjab and Haryana recently despite being traditionally grown in eastern India.

Q13. What is the significance of the Bhoodan-Gramdan movement? Why is it called the 'Bloodless Revolution'?

Q14. List any four technological reforms introduced in Indian agriculture in the 1980s and 1990s.

SECTION C - Short Answer Questions (3 marks each)

Q15. Discuss the cultivation of cotton in India covering: (i) Soil and climate requirements (ii) Growing period (iii) Major producing states

Q16. Explain how physical environment, technological know-how, and socio-cultural practices influence farming methods in India. Give examples.

Q17. Why are special weather bulletins and agricultural programs important for farmers? What other measures has the government taken for farmers' welfare?

SECTION D - Long Answer Question (5 marks)

Q18. Agriculture has been an age-old economic activity in India, yet it faces numerous challenges. Discuss: (i) Why agriculture remains central to Indian economy (ii) Problems of land fragmentation and its impact (iii) Role of irrigation in agricultural development (iv) Need for techno-institutional reforms (v) Future prospects

SECTION E - Case Study Based Questions (4 marks each)

Q19. Case Study 1:

Rice is grown in the plains of north and northeastern 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, Haryana, and western Uttar Pradesh. India is the second largest producer of rice in the world. It is a kharif crop requiring high temperature above 25°C, high humidity, and annual rainfall above 100 cm.

(i) In which geographical regions is rice traditionally grown? (1 mark)

(ii) How has technology helped rice cultivation in low rainfall areas? (1 mark)

(iii) What climatic conditions does rice require? (1 mark)

(iv) Why has Punjab become a major rice producing state despite low rainfall? (1 mark)

Q20. Case Study 2:

Sustained uses of land without compatible techno-institutional changes have hindered the pace of agricultural development. After Independence, collectivization, consolidation of holdings, cooperation, and abolition of zamindari were given priority. However, implementation was lacking. In the 1980s and 1990s, a comprehensive land development programme was initiated including crop insurance, establishment of Grameen banks, Kisan Credit Card, and weather bulletins for farmers to protect them from exploitation and support their welfare.

(i) What hindered agricultural development in India? (1 mark)

(ii) What was the main focus of First Five Year Plan regarding agriculture? (1 mark)

(iii) Name any two schemes introduced in 1980s-1990s for farmers. (1 mark)

(iv) How does crop insurance help farmers? (1 mark)

DETAILED ANSWER KEY - PAPER 04

SECTION A - Answers to MCQs

Q1. Answer: (b) Cotton

India is believed to be the original home of the cotton plant. Cotton is one of the main raw materials for the cotton textile industry, and India is the second largest producer of cotton after China.

Q2. Answer: (b) Ganga-Satluj plains and Black soil region of Deccan

There are two important wheat-growing zones in the country: the Ganga-Satluj plains in the northwest and the black soil region of the Deccan. These regions provide ideal conditions for wheat cultivation.

Q3. Answer: (b) Flood plains with well-drained fertile soils

Jute grows well on well-drained fertile soils in the flood plains where soils are renewed every year. High temperature is required during the time of growth.

Q4. Answer: (c) Punjab

Punjab is not a major jute producing state. Major jute producing states are West Bengal, Bihar, Assam, Odisha, and Meghalaya. Punjab is known for wheat and rice production.

Q5. Answer: (b) Baba Budan Hills

Coffee cultivation was initially introduced on the Baba Budan Hills in India. Even today, its cultivation is confined to the Nilgiri in Karnataka, Kerala, and Tamil Nadu.

Q6. Answer: (c) Two-thirds

Two-thirds (approximately 67%) of India's population is engaged in agricultural activities, making it a primary economic activity that provides livelihood for more than 60% of the population.

Q7. Answer: (c) Andhra Pradesh

The Bhoodan movement started in Pochampalli village in Andhra Pradesh when Vinoba Bhave was delivering a lecture and Shri Ram Chandra Reddy offered 80 acres of land to be distributed among 80 landless villagers.

Q8. Answer: (d) Tropical monsoons

Tropical monsoons have not particularly contributed to wheat cultivation in northwestern India. Instead, western temperate cyclones bringing winter precipitation, Green Revolution technologies, and canal irrigation have been the key factors.

Q9. Answer: (c) China

In 2020, India was the second largest producer of tea after China. Major tea-producing states in India are Assam, hills of Darjeeling and Jalpaiguri districts in West Bengal, Tamil Nadu, and Kerala.

Q10. Answer: (c) Kerala

Kerala is not a major cotton-producing state. Major cotton-producing states are Maharashtra, Gujarat, Madhya Pradesh, Karnataka, Andhra Pradesh, Telangana, Tamil Nadu, Punjab, Haryana, and Uttar Pradesh.

SECTION B - Answers to Short Answer Questions

Q11. Answer:

Four major fiber crops in India:

1. Cotton
2. Jute
3. Hemp
4. Natural silk (obtained from silkworms)

How silk is different: The first three fiber crops (cotton, jute, hemp) are derived from crops grown in the soil, while silk is obtained from cocoons of silkworms fed on green leaves, especially mulberry. The process of rearing silkworms for silk fiber production is called sericulture, which is fundamentally different from agricultural cultivation.

Q12. Answer:

Rice has recently become an important crop in Punjab and Haryana due to:

- **Irrigation Development:** Development of dense network of canal irrigation and tubewells has made it possible to grow rice in these areas despite lower rainfall compared to traditional rice-growing regions
- **Green Revolution:** Success of the Green Revolution in these states brought modern technology including HYV seeds, fertilizers, and scientific methods that enabled rice cultivation
- **Government Support:** Assured procurement at minimum support prices encouraged farmers to shift to rice cultivation
- **Market Demand:** Growing demand for rice and better infrastructure for marketing made it commercially viable

Q13. Answer:

Significance of Bhoodan-Gramdan Movement:

- Initiated by Vinoba Bhave to redistribute land from wealthy landowners to landless villagers
- Started in Pochampalli, Andhra Pradesh, when Shri Ram Chandra Reddy offered 80 acres for 80 landless families
- Spread across India with zamindars voluntarily donating land (Bhoodan) or entire villages (Gramdan)
- Attempted to address land inequality through voluntary participation rather than force

Called 'Bloodless Revolution' because: It achieved significant land redistribution through voluntary donations and moral persuasion without violence, conflict, or government coercion, unlike typical land reforms that often involve forceful acquisition or revolutionary struggles.

Q14. Answer:

Four technological reforms in 1980s-1990s:

1. **Crop Insurance:** Provision for insurance against drought, flood, cyclone, fire, and disease to protect farmers from natural calamities
2. **Credit Facilities:** Establishment of Grameen banks and cooperative societies for providing loans at lower interest rates
3. **Kisan Credit Card (KCC):** Introduction of KCC scheme for easy access to credit for farmers
4. **Weather Bulletins:** Special weather bulletins and agricultural programs on radio and television to help farmers with timely information
5. (Other examples: Personal Accident Insurance Scheme, minimum support price announcements)

SECTION C - Answers to Short Answer Questions

Q15. Answer:

Cotton Cultivation in India:

(i) Soil and Climate Requirements:

- **Soil:** Grows well in drier parts of black cotton soil of the Deccan plateau
- **Temperature:** Requires high temperature
- **Rainfall:** Light rainfall or irrigation is needed
- **Sunshine:** Bright sunshine required for growth
- **Frost-Free Days:** Needs 210 frost-free days

(ii) Growing Period:

- It is a Kharif crop
- Requires 6 to 8 months to mature
- Complete growth cycle extends through the monsoon and post-monsoon period

(iii) Major Producing States:

- Maharashtra
- Gujarat
- Madhya Pradesh
- Karnataka
- Andhra Pradesh and Telangana
- Tamil Nadu
- Punjab, Haryana, and Uttar Pradesh

India is the second largest producer of cotton after China and is believed to be the original home of the cotton plant.

Q16. Answer:

Influence of Different Factors on Farming Methods:

(i) Physical Environment:

- **Climate:** Determines which crops can be grown (e.g., rice needs high rainfall and humidity; wheat needs cool growing season)
- **Soil:** Black cotton soil suitable for cotton; alluvial soil for rice and wheat
- **Topography:** Plains suitable for mechanized farming; hilly areas often use primitive methods like jhumming
- **Example:** Northeastern hilly regions practice slash-and-burn agriculture due to terrain, while plains of Punjab use mechanized farming

(ii) Technological Know-how:

- Availability of HYV seeds, fertilizers, irrigation determines productivity
- Access to modern machinery influences farming efficiency
- **Example:** Green Revolution transformed Punjab and Haryana through technology adoption, while many tribal areas continue primitive methods

(iii) Socio-cultural Practices:

- Traditional knowledge and practices influence crop selection
- Community cooperation in primitive farming; family labor in subsistence farming
- Right of inheritance leads to land fragmentation affecting farming methods
- **Example:** Jhumming continues in Northeast due to cultural traditions despite its limitations

Q17. Answer:

Importance of Weather Bulletins and Agricultural Programs:

- Help farmers make informed decisions about sowing, irrigation, and harvesting times
- Provide advance warning about weather conditions like rainfall, storms, or droughts
- Offer guidance on pest control, new techniques, and government schemes
- Enable farmers to protect crops and minimize losses from adverse weather
- Disseminate information about market prices and best agricultural practices

Other Measures by Government:

1. **Financial Support:**
   - Establishment of Grameen banks and cooperative societies
   - Kisan Credit Card (KCC) for easy access to credit at lower interest rates
   - Personal Accident Insurance Scheme (PAIS)
2. **Price Support:**
   - Announcement of minimum support price (MSP)
   - Remunerative and procurement prices to check exploitation by middlemen
3. **Risk Management:**
   - Crop insurance against natural calamities
   - Disaster relief measures

SECTION D - Answer to Long Answer Question

Q18. Answer:

Agriculture in India - Central Role, Challenges, and Future:

(i) Why Agriculture Remains Central to Indian Economy:

- Two-thirds of India's population is engaged in agricultural activities, providing livelihood to more than 60% of people
- It is a primary activity producing most of the food consumed by the population
- Provides raw materials for various industries (cotton textiles, sugar, jute, food processing)
- Source of export earnings through tea, coffee, spices, rice, etc.
- Contributes significantly to national GDP and employment generation
- Forms the backbone of rural economy and social structure

(ii) Problems of Land Fragmentation and Its Impact:

- **Cause:** The right of inheritance leads to division of land among successive generations
- **Impact:**
  - Land holdings have become uneconomical in size
  - Difficult to use modern machinery on small, fragmented plots
  - Reduces productivity and efficiency
  - Farmers continue to extract maximum output from limited land due to absence of alternative livelihoods

    - Enormous pressure on agricultural land affecting sustainability
- **Need:** Consolidation of holdings became necessary, which was addressed in the First Five Year Plan

(iii) Role of Irrigation in Agricultural Development:

- Despite development of irrigation sources, most farmers still depend on monsoon and natural fertility
- Development of canal irrigation and tubewells has enabled rice cultivation in Punjab, Haryana, and western UP despite lower rainfall
- Irrigation is essential for crops like sugarcane in regions of low rainfall
- Allows multiple cropping and cultivation of water-intensive crops
- Reduces dependence on uncertain monsoons and climate variability
- However, uneven distribution of irrigation facilities has led to regional disparities

(iv) Need for Techno-Institutional Reforms:

- Sustained use of land without compatible techno-institutional changes has hindered agricultural development
- **Institutional Reforms Needed:**
    - Effective implementation of land reforms
    - Consolidation of fragmented holdings
    - Strengthening cooperative movements
    - Better credit facilities and insurance schemes
- **Technological Reforms Needed:**
    - Access to HYV seeds, fertilizers, and modern equipment
    - Expansion of irrigation facilities
    - Mechanization appropriate to Indian conditions
    - Research and development for sustainable practices
- Green Revolution showed benefits but also created regional imbalances; need for inclusive growth

(v) Future Prospects:

- Agriculture needs serious technical and institutional reforms for a growing population
- Focus on sustainable farming practices to prevent soil degradation
- Climate-smart agriculture to adapt to climate change
- Better market access and price support for farmers
- Diversification into horticulture, organic farming, and value-added products
- Technology adoption (precision farming, mobile apps, weather forecasting)
- Creating alternative employment in rural areas to reduce pressure on land
- Ensuring equitable development across all regions, not just selected areas

SECTION E - Answers to Case Study Based Questions

Q19. Answer:

(i) Traditional rice-growing regions: Rice is traditionally grown in the plains of north and northeastern India, coastal areas, and the deltaic regions where rainfall and humidity are naturally high.

(ii) Technology's role in low rainfall areas: Development of dense network of canal irrigation and tubewells has made it possible to grow rice in areas of less rainfall by providing artificial water supply throughout the growing season.

(iii) Climatic conditions required: Rice requires:

- High temperature above 25°C
- High humidity
- Annual rainfall above 100 cm
- (In areas of less rainfall, it grows with the help of irrigation)

(iv) Punjab's emergence as rice producer: Punjab has become a major rice producing state despite low rainfall due to the development of extensive irrigation infrastructure (canals and tubewells), combined with the success of the Green Revolution which brought HYV seeds, fertilizers, and modern agricultural practices to the state.

Q20. Answer:

(i) What hindered development: Sustained uses of land without compatible techno-institutional changes hindered the pace of agricultural development in India. Farmers continued traditional practices without adopting modern technology or institutional support systems.

(ii) Focus of First Five Year Plan: 'Land reform' was the main focus of the First Five Year Plan regarding agriculture. This included collectivization, consolidation of holdings, cooperation, and abolition of zamindari system, though implementation was often lacking or lukewarm.

(iii) Two schemes from 1980s-1990s:

- Kisan Credit Card (KCC) - for providing easy credit access to farmers
- Crop Insurance - against natural calamities like drought, flood, cyclone, fire, and disease
- (Other examples: Personal Accident Insurance Scheme, Grameen banks establishment, weather bulletins)

(iv) How crop insurance helps: Crop insurance helps farmers by providing financial compensation when their crops are damaged or destroyed due to natural calamities such as drought, flood, cyclone, fire, or disease. This reduces their financial risks, prevents them from falling into debt, and gives them confidence to invest in agriculture without fear of total loss from uncontrollable factors.
