

# UNIQUE STUDY POINT

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<b>Book:</b> Geography	<b>Type:</b> PYQ (Board Exam)	<b>Board:</b> CBSE

## Chapter 4 : Agriculture

### SECTION A : Multiple Choice Questions

(1 Mark Each)

Q1. Which of the following is a Rabi crop? [CBSE 2023] [1]

- (a) Rice (b) Wheat (c) Jowar (d) Cotton

**Ans: (b) Wheat. Rabi crops are sown in winter (October-December) and harvested in summer (April-June). Other Rabi crops: barley, peas, gram, mustard.**

Q2. Which of the following is the largest producer of rice in India? [CBSE 2022] [1]

- (a) Punjab (b) West Bengal (c) Uttar Pradesh (d) Bihar

**Ans: (b) West Bengal. It is the largest rice-producing state due to alluvial soil, high rainfall, and warm climate suitable for paddy cultivation.**

Q3. Green Revolution was most successful in the production of: [CBSE 2024] [1]

- (a) Pulses (b) Wheat and rice (c) Cotton (d) Oilseeds

**Ans: (b) Wheat and rice. The Green Revolution (1960s-70s) introduced high-yielding variety seeds, chemical fertilizers, and irrigation, dramatically increasing wheat and rice output.**

Q4. Which crop is known as the "golden fibre"? [CBSE 2021] [1]

- (a) Cotton (b) Silk (c) Jute (d) Hemp

**Ans: (c) Jute. Known as the golden fibre due to its golden colour and economic value. Mainly grown in West Bengal, Bihar, Assam. Used for making bags, mats, and textiles.**

Q5. Slash and burn agriculture is known as: [CBSE 2020] [1]

- (a) Intensive farming (b) Jhum/shifting cultivation (c) Plantation farming (d) Commercial farming

**Ans: (b) Jhum or shifting cultivation. Forests are cleared by burning, crops are grown for 2-3 years, then farmers move to new area. Practised in NE India.**

Q6. Which of the following is a plantation crop? [CBSE 2023] [1]

- (a) Wheat (b) Rice (c) Tea (d) Bajra

**Ans: (c) Tea. Plantation crops are grown on large estates for commercial purposes. Others: coffee, rubber, sugarcane, banana, coconut. Requires large capital and labour.**

Q7. The main focus of food security was which programme? [CBSE 2024] [1]

- (a) Green Revolution (b) White Revolution  
(c) Blue Revolution (d) Yellow Revolution

**Ans: (a) Green Revolution. Introduced in 1960s, it used HYV seeds, fertilizers, and irrigation to boost foodgrain production, making India self-sufficient in wheat and rice.**

Q8. Rubber is mainly grown in: [CBSE 2022] [1]

- (a) Assam (b) Kerala (c) West Bengal (d) Punjab

**Ans: (b) Kerala. Rubber requires tropical climate with heavy rainfall, warm temperature, and well-drained soil. Kerala produces over 90% of India's natural rubber.**

Q9. Which revolution is associated with milk production? [CBSE 2021] [1]

- (a) Green Revolution (b) White Revolution  
(c) Blue Revolution (d) Golden Revolution

**Ans: (b) White Revolution (Operation Flood). Led by Dr. Verghese Kurien through Amul cooperative, it made India the world's largest milk producer.**

**Q10. Assertion (A): Indian agriculture is over-dependent on monsoons. Reason (R): Most of India's farmland lacks irrigation facilities. [CBSE 2024] [1]**

- (a) Both true and (R) correctly explains (A)
- (b) Both true but (R) does not explain (A)
- (c) (A) is true but (R) is false
- (d) (A) is false

**Ans: (a) Both true and (R) correctly explains (A). Only about 50% of farmland is irrigated. The rest depends entirely on monsoon rainfall, making agriculture risky.**

### SECTION B : Short Answer Questions

(3 Marks Each)

**Q11. Distinguish between Rabi and Kharif crops with examples. [CBSE 2023] [3]**

- **Rabi:** Sown in winter (Oct-Dec), harvested in summer (Apr-Jun). Need cool climate for growth and warm for ripening. E.g., wheat, barley, peas, mustard, gram.
- **Kharif:** Sown at the start of monsoon (Jun-Jul), harvested in autumn (Sept-Oct). Need warm climate and abundant rainfall. E.g., rice, jowar, bajra, maize, cotton.
- **Zaid:** Short season crops grown between Rabi and Kharif (March-June). E.g., watermelon, muskmelon, cucumber. Grown using irrigation in summer months.

**Q12. What is the importance of agriculture in the Indian economy? [CBSE 2024] [3]**

- **Employment:** Agriculture employs about 42% of India's workforce. It is the primary livelihood for rural India where over 65% of the population lives.
- **Food Security:** India is self-sufficient in foodgrains due to Green Revolution. Agriculture feeds 1.4 billion people and provides raw materials for food processing industry.
- **GDP Contribution:** Though its share in GDP has declined to about 14%, agriculture remains crucial for economic stability and has strong linkages with industry and services.

**Q13. Explain the geographical conditions required for growing tea and coffee. [CBSE 2022] [3]**

- **Tea:** Requires warm, moist climate with 150-300 cm rainfall. Well-drained slopes at high elevation. Cheap, skilled labour. Grown in Assam, Darjeeling, Nilgiris, Kerala.
- **Coffee:** Requires warm, moist tropical climate with 150-250 cm rainfall. Grown on shaded hill slopes at 900-1800m altitude. Major areas: Karnataka (Coorg), Kerala, Tamil Nadu.
- **Common:** Both are plantation crops requiring large capital investment, well-drained acidic soil, and intensive labour for plucking. India is a major exporter of both.

**Q14. What is food security? How has India tried to achieve it? [CBSE 2021] [3]**

- **Meaning:** Food security means availability, accessibility, and affordability of food for all people at all times. No one should go hungry.
- **Green Revolution:** Introduction of HYV seeds, chemical fertilizers, pesticides, and irrigation in 1960s transformed India from a food-deficit to food-surplus nation.
- **Government Measures:** Public Distribution System (PDS), Minimum Support Prices (MSP), Food Corporation of India (FCI), and schemes like MGNREGA ensure food security.

**Q15. What are the challenges facing Indian agriculture today? [CBSE 2020] [3]**

- **Small Holdings:** Average farm size is shrinking due to fragmentation. Small farms are uneconomical to cultivate with modern technology and expensive inputs.
- **Monsoon Dependence:** Over 50% farmland is rainfed. Erratic monsoons cause droughts and floods, devastating crops and farmer incomes.
- **Debt Crisis:** High input costs, low output prices, and dependence on moneylenders trap farmers in debt. Farmer suicides remain a tragic reality in many states.

### SECTION C : Long Answer Questions

(5 Marks Each)

**Q16. "Agriculture has been the backbone of the Indian economy." Discuss the importance and challenges. [CBSE 2024] [5]**

**Ans: Agriculture's significance and challenges:**

- **Employment:** About 42% of workforce depends on agriculture. In rural India, it is the primary and often only source of livelihood for most families.

- **Food Security:** India produces over 300 million tonnes of foodgrains annually. Green Revolution made India self-sufficient. We are among the world's top producers of rice, wheat, and milk.
- **Industrial Linkage:** Agriculture provides raw materials to industries - cotton to textiles, sugarcane to sugar, oilseeds to vegetable oil. Agro-industries create rural employment.
- **Challenge - Climate:** Monsoon dependence, climate change, water scarcity, and soil degradation threaten food production. Farmers face uncertainty every season.
- **Challenge - Economic:** Low prices, rising input costs, small landholdings, inadequate credit, and poor infrastructure keep farmers trapped in poverty despite hard work.

**Q17.** Explain the impact of globalisation on Indian agriculture. [CBSE 2023] [5]

**Ans: Globalisation has had mixed effects on Indian agriculture:**

- **Export Opportunities:** Indian farmers can now sell rice, spices, tea, coffee, fruits, and vegetables in global markets, earning better prices.
- **Technology Transfer:** Modern farming techniques, hybrid seeds, drip irrigation, and cold storage technology from developed countries have improved productivity.
- **Competition:** Cheap imports of palm oil, pulses, and other commodities hurt domestic farmers who cannot compete with subsidised foreign products.
- **Contract Farming:** MNCs like PepsiCo, ITC enter agriculture through contract farming. This provides guaranteed prices but can also make farmers dependent on corporations.
- **Policy Need:** Government must protect small farmers through MSP, trade barriers where needed, investment in infrastructure, and access to credit and technology.

**Q18.** Describe the different types of farming practised in India. [CBSE 2022] [5]

**Ans: India has diverse farming systems:**

- **Subsistence Farming:** Practised on small plots for family consumption. Uses traditional tools, family labour, and depends on monsoon. Common in most of India.
- **Intensive Subsistence:** High use of labour per unit area. Small plots but very high output through multiple cropping. Common in rice-growing regions of eastern India.
- **Commercial Farming:** Crops grown for sale. Uses modern inputs - HYV seeds, fertilizers, pesticides, machines. E.g., Punjab wheat, Maharashtra sugarcane, Gujarat cotton.
- **Plantation:** Large estates growing single crop (tea, coffee, rubber). Requires heavy capital, technical know-how, and large labour force. Products mainly for export.
- **Shifting Cultivation:** Forests cleared, crops grown for 2-3 years, then abandoned. Known as Jhum in NE India. Declining due to forest conservation policies.

**Q19.** Explain the geographical conditions and main producing areas for rice and wheat in India. [CBSE 2021] [5]

**Ans: Rice and wheat are India's most important food crops:**

- **Rice - Climate:** Requires high temperature (above 25°C), high humidity, and annual rainfall above 100 cm. Grows well in alluvial soil of floodplains.
- **Rice - Areas:** Major areas: West Bengal, UP, Andhra Pradesh, Punjab, Tamil Nadu, Bihar. Plains of north and east India and coastal regions are ideal.
- **Wheat - Climate:** Requires cool growing season (10-15°C) and warm harvesting season. Moderate rainfall (50-75 cm). Well-drained fertile loamy soil.
- **Wheat - Areas:** Indo-Gangetic plains: Punjab, Haryana, UP, MP, Rajasthan. Punjab-Haryana are the wheat bowl of India due to Green Revolution success.
- **Production:** India is the world's 2nd largest producer of both rice and wheat. Together they provide food security for 1.4 billion people.

**Q20.** What was the Green Revolution? Discuss its impact on Indian agriculture. [CBSE 2020] [5]

**Ans: Green Revolution transformed Indian agriculture:**

- **Introduction:** Started in 1960s under M.S. Swaminathan. Introduced High Yielding Variety (HYV) seeds of wheat and rice with chemical fertilizers and pesticides.
- **Production Boost:** Wheat production increased from 11 million tonnes (1960) to over 100 million tonnes. India became self-sufficient in foodgrains.
- **Regional Impact:** Initially successful in Punjab, Haryana, and western UP. Later spread to other states. These states became India's "food bowl."
- **Negative Effects:** Soil fertility declined due to chemical overuse. Groundwater depleted by tube wells. Biodiversity reduced as traditional varieties were abandoned.
- **Social Impact:** Benefited large farmers more than small and marginal farmers. Created regional inequality. Rich farmers prospered while many small farmers remained poor.

--- End of Chapter 4 PYQ ---

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