

# Agriculture

## Quick Revision

Agriculture is a primary activity in which almost two-third of India's population is engaged.

### Types of Farming

- There are various types of farming in India such as primitive subsistence farming, intensive subsistence farming, commercial farming, plantations etc.
- **Primitive subsistence** farming is carried out by the small farmers with the help of primitive tools.
- **Intensive subsistence farming** is practised in areas where there is high population pressure on land.
- The agricultural practice on large scale by using modern technology to earn good income from agriculture is called **Commercial Farming**.
- Commercial farming is done by using High Yielding Variety (HYV) seeds, good irrigation facilities, chemical fertilisers, insecticides, pesticides, etc.

### Cropping Pattern

- India has three cropping seasons such as **Rabi**, **Kharif** and **Zaid**.
- Some rabi crops are wheat, barley, peas, gram and mustard. Major kharif crops are paddy, maize, jowar, bajra, tur, moong, urad, cotton, jute, groundnut and soyabean. Some zaid crops are watermelon, muskmelon, cucumber, vegetables and fodder crops.

- A variety of food and non food crops are grown in different parts of India. These depend upon the variations in soil, climate and cultivation practices.

### Major Crops

- Food crops include grains and leguminous crops like rice, wheat, millets, maize, pulses.
- Rice is the major staple food crop of a majority of the people in India. Wheat is the second most important cereal crop.
- Jowar, bajra and ragi are the important millets grown in India. Maize is a crop which is used both as food and fodder.
- India is the largest producer and consumer of pulses in the world.

### Food Crops Other than Grains

- Other food crops are sugarcane, oilseeds, beverage crops like tea, coffee and horticulture crops.
- Sugarcane is a tropical crop. Main oil seeds produced in India are groundnut, mustard, coconut, sesamum, soyabean, castor seeds, cotton seeds, linseed and sunflower.
- Tea and coffee are example of plantation crops.
- **Horticulture crops** include the cultivation of both fruits and vegetables. Important vegetable produces in India are pea, cauliflower, onion, cabbage, tomato, brinjal and potato. Important fruits grow in India are mango, orange, banana, pineapple, grape, lichi, guava, apple pear, apricot, walnut, etc.





## Non-Food Crops

- Non-food crops include fibre crops like cotton, jute.
- **Rubber** is also a non-food crop. Rubber is an important industrial raw material and mainly grown in Kerala.
- **Fibre Crops** cotton, jute, hemp and natural silk are the major fibre crops grown in India.
- **Cotton** is one of the major raw materials for cotton textile industry. Its growth is good in drier parts of deccan plateau.
- **Jute** is known as the golden fibre. It grows well in well-drained fertile soils in the flood plains.

## Technological and Institutional Reforms

- The Government of India in 1960s to 1970s introduced some agricultural reforms to improve Indian agriculture like **Green Revolution** and **White Revolution**.
- Major institutional reforms like land reforms and collectivisation were introduced in India from the first Five Year Plan.
- Government of India has initiated land development programmes and schemes like **Kisan Credit Card** (KCC), weather bulletins and programmes on radio and television, etc for the benefits of the farmers.
- Government also announced **Minimum Support Price** (MSP), remunerative and procurement prices for various agricultural products.

## Contribution of Agriculture to the National Economy, Employment and Output

- As per a survey done in 2010-11 around 52% of the Indian population is dependent on agriculture for sustenance.
- When share of agriculture declines in GDP, it leads to a decline in other spheres of the economy.
- To improve Indian agriculture, the Government of India made efforts to modernise agriculture. For this the government established **Indian Council of Agricultural Research** (ICAR), agricultural universities, veterinary services and animal breeding centres, horticulture development, research and development in the field of meteorology and weather forecast.

## Impact of Globalisation on Agriculture

- Globalisation has also adversely impacted Indian agriculture as the farmers in India are exposed to high competition from farmers of the developed countries.
- Our farmers are not able to compete with them on prices of major commodities like rice, cotton, rubber, tea, coffee, jute and spices.
- If India changes its cropping pattern i.e. if India imports cereals while exporting high value commodities, it will be following successful economics like Italy, Israel and Chile.
- Gene revolution and organic farming are new dimensions in Indian agriculture that is based on innovative technology.





# Objective Questions

## Multiple Choice Questions

**01.** Agriculture is a ..... activity.

- (a) primary (b) secondary  
(c) tertiary (d) Both (a) and (b)

**02.** Which of the following methods have changed depending upon the characteristics of physical environment, technological know-how and socio-cultural practice?

- (a) Industrial activity (b) Irrigation pattern  
(c) Cultivation (d) None of these

**03.** Which of the following is not the characteristic of primitive subsistence farming?

- (a) Small patches of land  
(b) Primitive tools  
(c) Dependency on monsoon  
(d) Technology

**04.** Which type of agriculture practice is famous in North-Eastern states like Assam, Meghalaya, Mizoram and Nagaland?

- (a) Jhumming cultivation  
(b) Slash and burn farming  
(c) Commercial farming  
(d) Subsistence farming

**05.** Choose the correctly matched pair about the Primitive Cultivation in India from the following options.

(CBSE SQP 2020)

- (a) Dahiya – Madhya Pradesh  
(b) Kumari – Jharkhand  
(c) Khil – Andhra Pradesh  
(d) Koman – Karnataka

**06.** Which farming is labour intensive farming

- (a) Intensive subsistence farming  
(b) Commercial farming  
(c) Primitive subsistence farming  
(d) Plantation farming

**07.** Which crops are sown in winter from October to December?

- (a) Zaid (b) Kharif  
(c) Rabi (d) Both (b) and (c)

**08.** Rabi crop : wheat : Kharif crop : : ...  
Zaid crop : water melon

- (a) Maize (b) Mustard  
(c) Peas (d) Vegetables

**09.** Rice requires high humidity with .....  
an annual rainfall.

- (a) Above 100 cm  
(b) Below 100 cm  
(c) Above 75 cm  
(d) Above 60 cm

**10.** Important crops like paddy, maize, jowar, bajra etc are grown during which of the following seasons?

- (a) Spring (b) Summer  
(c) Monsoon (d) Winter

**11.** Aus, Aman and Boro are types of which crop?

- (a) Maize (b) Paddy  
(c) Jowar (d) Bajra

**12.** Which of the following is the staple food crop of a majority of the people in India?

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

**13.** India is the second largest producer of rice in the world after

- (a) Brazil (b) China  
(c) Bangladesh (d) USA

**14.** A type of millet rich in iron, calcium, other micro-nutrients and roughage is  
(CBSE SQP 2020)

- (a) Bajra (b) Rajma  
(c) Jowar (d) Ragi





**15.** Which one of the following crops is an example of Rabi cropping season?

- (a) Watermelon (b) Cucumber  
(c) Maize (d) Barley

**16.** For irrigation, most of the Indian farmers depend on

- (a) reservoirs (b) rivers  
(c) monsoon (d) tube wells

**17.** Identify the correct reason for low production of jute.

- (a) Needs well drained fertile soils  
(b) Needs flood plains that should be renewed every years  
(c) Loosing its market to synthetic fibres  
(d) Jute mills not technically advanced

**18.** Which of the following crop is a tropical as well as subtropical crop?

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

**19.** Which crop requires moist and humid climate with rainfall of more than 200 cm. and temp above 25°C?

- (a) Jute (b) Tea  
(c) Rubber (d) Coffee

**20.** Which fibre is also known as the golden fibre?

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

**21.** Name the major Banana producing state in India?

- (a) Andhra Pradesh (b) Telangana  
(c) Meghalaya (d) Kerala

**22.** Complete the following table.

	Annual rainfall	Cropping Season
Wheat	(i) ?	(ii) ?

- (a) (i) 50-75 cm, (ii) Rabi  
(b) (i) 75-100 cm, (ii) Rabi  
(c) (i) 100-200 cm, (ii) Zaid  
(d) (i) Above 200 cm, (ii) Kharif

**23.** Complete the following table.

	Grown in States	Climate
Rubber	(i) ?	(ii) ?

- (a) (i) Kerala, Tamil Nadu, (ii) Moist and humid  
(b) (i) Andhra Pradesh and MP, (ii) Moderate  
(c) (i) Madhya Pradesh, (ii) Moist  
(d) (i) Kerala, (ii) Humid

**24.** ....., is a scheme introduced by the Government of India for the benefit of the farmers.

- (a) KCC (b) ICAR  
(c) Bhoodan (d) None of these

**25.** Identify the crop shown here.



- (a) Cotton (b) Coffee  
(c) Sugarcane (d) None of these

**26.** Find the incorrect match.

- (a) Sugarcane – Tropical as well as sub tropical crop  
(b) Cotton – In 2015, India was largest producer  
(c) Pulses – India is the largest producer  
(d) Maize – Both food and fodder crop

**27.** Which of the following pair is correctly matched?

	State	Producer
(a)	Maharashtra	Litchi
(b)	Nagpur	Mango
(c)	Pineapples	Meghalaya
(d)	Grapes	Himachal Pradesh



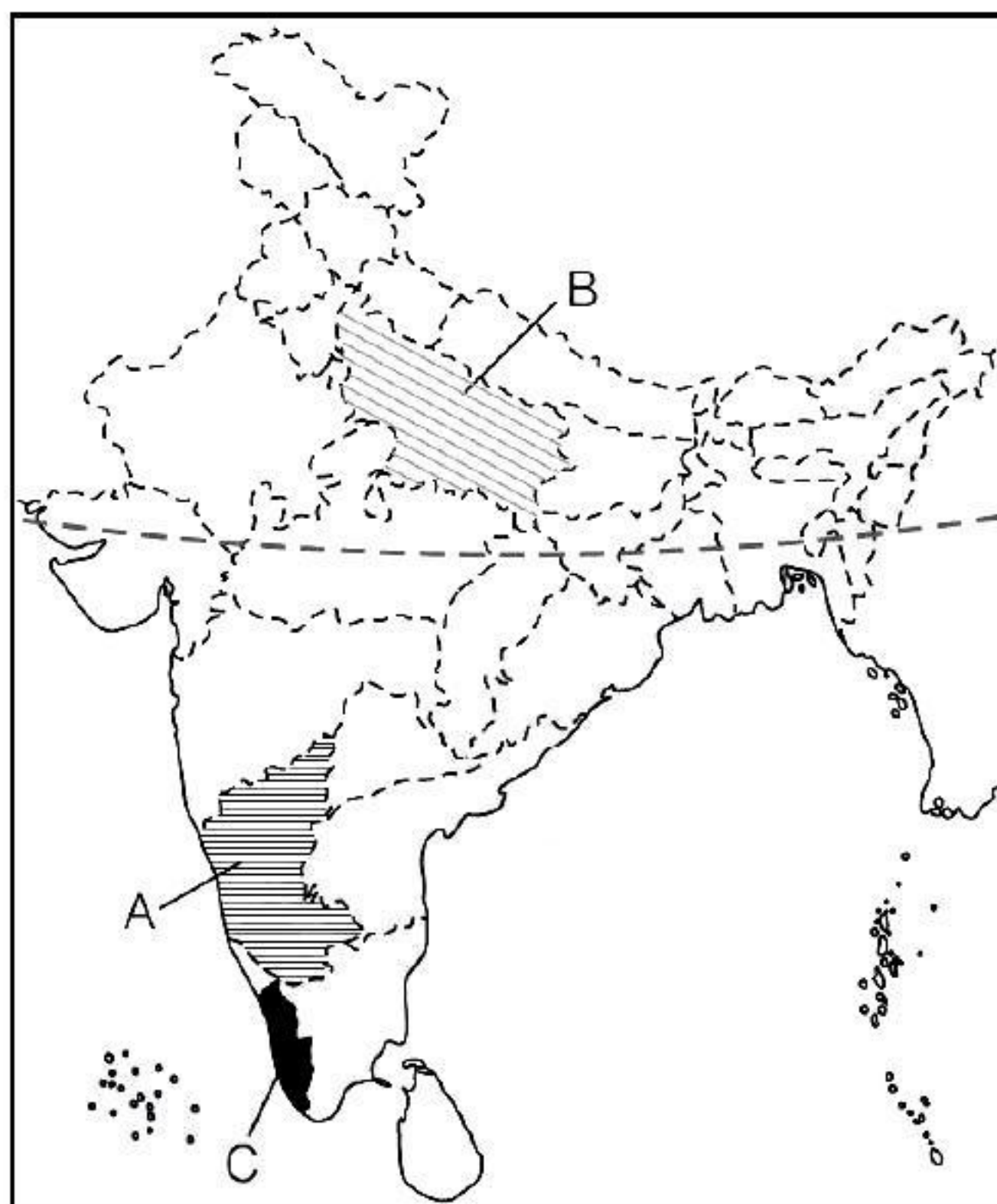
**28.** Match the following.

List I		List II	
A.	Wheat	1.	Both Rabi and Kharif
B.	Rice	2.	Rabi
C.	Muskmelon	3.	Kharif
D.	Pulses	4.	Zaid

**Codes**

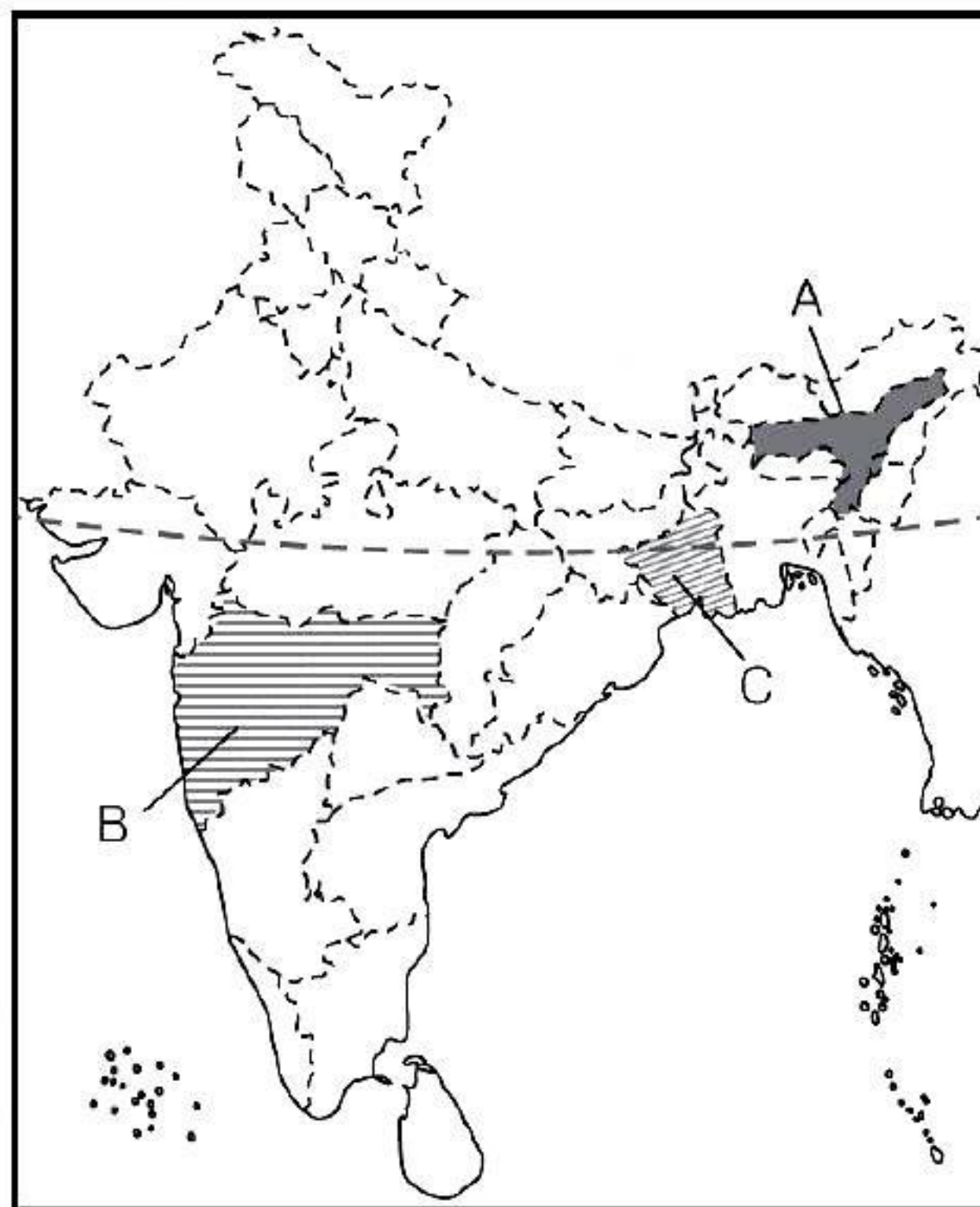
	A	B	C	D
(a)	2	4	3	1
(b)	2	3	4	1
(c)	1	2	3	4
(d)	1	4	3	2

**Directions (Q. Nos. 29-31)** Identify the state shaded part A, B and C of the map which is the major producer of coffee, sugarcane and rubber respectively.



- 29.** (a) Maharashtra (b) Tamil Nadu  
(c) Andhra Pradesh (d) Karnataka
- 30.** (a) Karnataka (b) Uttar Pradesh  
(c) Punjab (d) Maharashtra
- 31.** (a) Punjab  
(b) Nilgiris hills in Southern India  
(c) Uttar Pradesh  
(d) Kerala

**Direction (Q. Nos. 32-34)** Identify the state shown shaded part A, B, and C in the map which is the major producer of tea, cotton and jute.



- 32.** (a) West Bengal (b) Odisha  
(c) Assam (d) Tripura
- 33.** (a) Karnataka (b) Maharashtra  
(c) Punjab (d) Kerala
- 34.** (a) Andhra Pradesh (b) Kerala  
(c) West Bengal (d) Maharashtra

### Assertion/Reasoning MCQs

**Directions (Q. Nos. 35-38)** In the question given below, there are two statements marked as Assertion (A) and Reason (R). Read the statements and choose the correct option.

**Codes**

- (a) Both A and R are true and R is the correct explanation of A  
(b) Both A and R are true, but R is not the correct explanation of A  
(c) A is true, but R is false  
(d) A is false, but R is true

- 35. Assertion (A)** Change in cropping pattern from cereals to high value crops is seen beneficial for Indian economy.



**Reason (R)** India can follow the way of successful economies by exporting farm products and importing cereals.

**36. Assertion (A)** Indian coffee is known in the world for its good quality.

**Reason (R)** The Arabica variety initially brought from Yemen is produced in the country.

**37. Assertion (A)** Jute grows well on well drained fertile soils in the flood plains where soils are renewed every year.

**Reason (R)** West Bengal, Bihar, Assam, Odisha and Meghalaya are the major jute producing state.

**38. Assertion (A)** Globalisation is not a new phenomenon.

**Reason (R)** It was there at the time of colonisation.

### Case Based MCQs

**01.** Read the source and answer the following questions.

Primitive farming is still practised in few pockets of India. Primitive subsistence agriculture is practised on small patches of land with the help of primitive tools like hoe, dao and digging sticks, and family community labour. This type of farming depends upon monsoon, natural fertility of the soil and suitability of other environmental conditions to the crops grown. It is a 'slash and burn' agriculture. Farmers clear a patch of land and produce cereals and other food crops to sustain their family. When the soil fertility decreases, the farmers shift and clear a fresh patch of land for cultivation. This type of shifting allows nature to replenish the fertility of the soil through natural processes; land productivity in this type of agriculture is low as the farmer

does not use fertilisers or other modern inputs. It is known by different names in different parts of the country.

(i) Which of the oldest form of agriculture, done on very small patches of land?

- (a) Commercial farming
- (b) Intensive farming
- (c) Primitive subsistence farming
- (d) Extensive farming

(ii) Which of the following condition is necessary for primitive farming?

- (a) Monsoon
- (b) Suitability of other environment
- (c) Technology
- (d) Labour

(iii) A farmer practicing 'slash and burn' agriculture will not be able to cultivate which type of crop?

- (a) Cash crop
- (b) Kharif crop
- (c) Zaid crop
- (d) Food crop

(iv) Why the farmer doesn't use fertilizers or other inputs in primitive farming?

- (a) because they don't have sufficient money
- (b) because they don't prefer it
- (c) because they have small plot of land
- (d) because they depend on monsoon.

**02.** Read the source and answer the following question.

The main characteristic of commercial farming is the use of higher doses of modern inputs, e.g. High Yielding Variety (HYV) seeds, chemical fertilisers, insecticides and pesticides in order to obtain higher productivity. The degree of commercialisation of agriculture varies from one region to another. For example, rice is a commercial crop in Haryana and Punjab, but in Odisha, it is a subsistence crop. Plantation is also a type of commercial farming. In this type of farming, a single crop is grown on a large area. The plantation has an interface of agriculture and industry.





Plantations cover large tracts of land, using capital, intensive inputs, with the help of migrant labourers. All the produce is used as raw material in respective industries.

In India, tea, coffee, rubber, sugarcane, banana, etc are important plantation crops. Tea in Assam and North Bengal coffee in Karnataka are some of the important plantation crops grown in these states. Since the production is mainly for market, a well developed network of transport and communication connecting the plantation areas, processing industries and markets plays an important role in the development of plantations.

- (i) Why commercial farming and plantation farming have limited presence in India?
  - (a) Low return
  - (b) Low land holding
  - (c) In favourable climatic condition
  - (d) All of the above
- (ii) Rice is a subsistence crop in Odisha where as it is commercial crop in Haryana and Punjab because
  - (a) lack of irrigation facilities
  - (b) they don't use modern technology
  - (c) capital issue
  - (d) All of the above
- (iii) What are the characteristics of plantation farming?
  - (a) Crop rotation on the same piece of land
  - (b) The produce is used for various reasons
  - (c) Multiple crops
  - (d) Advanced technical knowledge is used at the present time
- (iv) Which type of farming is mainly linked with industrial development?
  - (a) Plantation farming
  - (b) Subsistence farming
  - (c) Intensive farming
  - (d) Slash and Burn farming

**03.** Read the source and answer the following questions.

Rabi crops are sown in winter from October to December and harvested in summer from April to June. Some of the important rabi crops are wheat, barley, peas, gram and mustard. Though these crops are grown in large parts of India, states from the North and North-Western parts such as Punjab, Haryana, Himachal Pradesh, Jammu and Kashmir, Uttarakhand and Uttar Pradesh are important for the production of wheat and other rabi crops. Availability of precipitation during winter months due to the western temperate cyclones helps in the success of these crops. However, the success of the Green Revolution in Punjab, Haryana, Western Uttar Pradesh and parts of Rajasthan has also been an important factor in the growth of the above mentioned rabi crops.

Kharif crops are grown with the onset of monsoon in different parts of the country and these are harvested in September-October. Important crops grown during this season are paddy, maize, jowar, bajra, tur (arhar), moong, urad, cotton, jute, groundnut and soyabean. Some of the most important rice-growing regions are Assam, West Bengal, coastal regions of Odisha, Andhra Pradesh, Telangana, Tamil Nadu, Kerala and Maharashtra, Particularly the (Konkan Coast) along with Uttar Pradesh and Bihar. Recently, paddy has also become an important crop of Punjab and Haryana. In states like Assam, West Bengal and Odisha, three crops of paddy are grown in a year. In between the rabi and the kharif seasons, there is a short season during the summer months known as the Zaid season. Some of the crops produced





during zaid are watermelon, muskmelon, cucumber, vegetables and fodder crops. Sugarcane takes almost a year to grow.

- (i) Why paddy has become important crop of Punjab and Haryana?
- People have started eating more rice
  - Better irrigation facility
  - Both (a) and (b)
  - None of the above
- (ii) Why green revolution has happened in the North-Western part of the country?
- High land holding
  - Capital investment
  - Better irrigation facility
  - All of the above
- (iii) If a farmer grows three crops of paddy in a year then he is likely to line in .....
- Punjab
  - Himachal Pradesh
  - Assam
  - Kerala
- (iv) Match the following.

List I (Harvesting months)		List II (Crop)	
A.	April to June	1.	Kharif
B.	September-October	2.	Zaid
C.	July-August	3.	Rabi

**Codes**

A	B	C	A	B	C
(a) 2	1	3	(b) 1	2	3
(c) 3	2	1	(d) 3	1	2

- 04.** Read the extract given below and answer the questions that follow.

We understand the physical diversities and plurality of cultures in India. These are also reflected in agricultural practices and cropping patterns in the country. Various types of food and fibre crops vegetables and fruits, spices and condiments, etc. constitute some of the important crops grown in the country.

India has three cropping seasons – rabi, kharif and zaid.

A variety of food and non-food crops are grown in different parts of the country depending upon the variations in soil, climate and cultivation practices. Major crops grown in India are rice, wheat, millets, pulses, tea, coffee, sugarcane, oilseeds, cotton and jute, etc.

- (i) Which statement is incorrect about India's agriculture?
- There are many types of agriculture practices in India.
  - India has many food and non food crops.
  - Cropping patterns in India are related to cultivation practices.
  - Rabi and kharif crops are grown in summers and winters respectively.
- (ii) Millets grown in many parts of India is a .....
- cash crop
  - non food crop
  - food crop
  - bevarage crop
- (iii) The passage given above relates to which of the following?
- Impact of agriculture in Indian economy
  - Institutional reforms in agriculture
  - Agriculture practices in India
  - Types of crops in India
- (iv) Zaid crops grown in India mostly consists of which of the following
- Foodgrains
  - Vegetables
  - Fodder
- 1 and 2
  - 2 and 3
  - 1 and 3
  - All of these

- 05.** Read the extract given below and answer the questinos that follow.

A few economists think that Indian farmers have a bleak future if they continue growing foodgrains on the holdings that grow smaller and smaller as the population rises. India's rural population is about 833 million (2011)





which depends upon 250 million (approximate) hectares of agricultural land, an average of less than half a hectare per person.

Indian farmers should diversify their cropping pattern from cereals to high-value crops. This will increase incomes and reduce environmental degradation simultaneously. Because fruits, medicinal herbs, flowers, vegetables, bio-diesel crops like jatropha and jojoba need much less irrigation than rice or sugarcane. India's diverse climate can be harnessed to grow a wide range of high-value crops.

- (i) High value crops are .....
- (a) fruits and vegetables
  - (b) rice and wheat
  - (c) fodder crops
  - (d) cotton and jute

- (ii) Which of the following statement is incorrect?

- (a) India's climate do not support high value crops
- (b) Jatropha and Jojoba are non-food crops
- (c) Diversifying cropping pattern is profitable
- (d) Some crops need less irrigation than others

- (iii) Why should farmers grow more of medicinal herbs and flowers?

- (a) They increase farmer's income
- (b) They need less irrigation
- (c) They reduce environmental degradation
- (d) All of the above

- (iv) Which of the following statement is true in context of the given passage?

- (a) Indian farmers produce more cereals
- (b) Indian farmers produces less high value crops
- (c) Both (a) and (b)
- (d) Neither (a) nor (b)

## ANSWERS

### Multiple Choice Questions

- |         |         |         |         |         |         |         |         |         |         |
|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|
| 1. (a)  | 2. (c)  | 3. (d)  | 4. (a)  | 5. (a)  | 6. (a)  | 7. (c)  | 8. (a)  | 9. (a)  | 10. (c) |
| 11. (b) | 12. (d) | 13. (b) | 14. (d) | 15. (d) | 16. (c) | 17. (c) | 18. (b) | 19. (c) | 20. (a) |
| 21. (d) | 22. (a) | 23. (a) | 24. (a) | 25. (c) | 26. (b) | 27. (c) | 28. (a) | 29. (d) | 30. (b) |
| 31. (d) | 32. (c) | 33. (b) | 34. (c) |         |         |         |         |         |         |

### Assertion/Reasoning MCQs

35. (a) 36. (a) 37. (b) 38. (a)

### Case Based MCQs

#### Passage 1

- (i) (c) (ii) (a) (iii) (a) (iv) (a)

#### Passage 3

- (i) (b) (ii) (d) (iii) (c) (iv) (d)

#### Passage 5

- (i) (d) (ii) (a) (iii) (d) (iv) (c)

#### Passage 2

- (i) (b) (ii) (d) (iii) (d) (iv) (a)

#### Passage 4

- (i) (d) (ii) (c) (iii) (c) (iv) (b)





## EXPLANATIONS

- 35.** The assertion is that by changing the crop pattern from cereal to high value will be beneficial for the Indian economy. Cereals or food crops are cheaper than cash crops. If India exports cash crops that are of high value and imports foodgrains then it will be beneficial. Successful economies have followed the same way. The reason given is correct and true. Hence, answer is (a).
- 36.** In this question, the assertion is that Indian coffee is known for its good quality. The reason is the variety of coffee grown in India that is called Arabica. It was brought to India from Yemen. It is considered a good quality coffee. The reason explain the assertion properly. So, option (a) is the answer.
- 37.** The assertion is that jute grows well on well drained fertile soils that is renewed every years. It is because of heavy rainfall due to climatic conditions. The rivers get flooded due to heavy rainfall and deposit their sediments which renews the soil. The reason given is about the major jute producing states of India. It is true but not the correct reason for this assertion. Therefore, answer is (b).
- 38.** In this question, the assertion is that globalisation is not a new phenomenon. Globalisation was there during colonisation when the Europeans came to India and other countries for trade. India exported spices, silk and many other things. Trade facilitated the exchange of cultures. Therefore, the reason given is true and correct for the assertion.

