

Agriculture of India

Q/A

1. What is Agriculture?

A:- The act of cultivating crops, rearing animals along with fisheries and forestry is termed as "agriculture". India is essentially an agricultural country or agrobased country. About 65% people of India are involved with agriculture in some form or other.

2. Explain the cropping seasons of India.

A:- The dominant cropping seasons of our country are Kharif and Rabi.

Kharif Crops :- Kharif season has monsoon or summer crops. They are associated with southwest

Monsoon. The crops, which grow during monsoon or Kharif season are known as Kharif crops. These crops are sown in the rainy season. Kharif season begins with the ground preparation in April-May. The seeds are sown after the onset of southwest monsoon (June-July) and harvested in autumn (November). The Kharif crops are rice, millets, cotton, Jute, sugar cane, sesamum and groundnuts.

Rabi crops :- The crops, which grow during Rabi season (November to February) are known as Rabi crops. The Rabi crops are sown in winter and harvested in spring. The ground is prepared by the end of October or the beginning of November and the crops are harvested between March and May. The principal Rabi crops are wheat, gram, linseed, rape seed and mustard.

3. Write short notes on :-

(a) Green Revolution :- There was a big change in

Indian agriculture is late 1960s. Agricultural production increased manifold by using high yielding seeds, fertilizers, irrigation and improved technology. This was called Green Revolution.

- (b) Steps Cultivations :- The method of cultivation in hilly areas by making steps on slopes to prevent soil erosion is called step cultivations.
- (c) Zaid Crops :- This is summer cropping season and major zaid crops are rice, maize groundnut, vegetable and fruits like water melon musk melon, cucumber etc.
- (d) Cash crops :- The crops which are grown, harvested and sold for cash rather than for sustenance. In other words, the crops, which earn money, particularly the foreign and domestic exchange, are known as cash crops. The principal cash crops in India are Tea,

Jute, cotton, sugarcane and coffee.

e) Plantation Crops: - In certain cases, the plantation of crops is done once and the crop obtained for a number of years. Many such crops are tree crops. The most important examples of plantation crops are tea, coffee and rubber.