

# INDIAN SCHOOL AL WADI AL KABIR

Class: IX	Department: Social Science	Sub: Economics
Chapter 1	Topic: The Story of Village Palampur	Year: 2024-25
Question Bank 1		

# 1 Briefly explain the essential four factors of production?

### Ans:

The essential four requirements for production of goods and services are:

- Land- and other natural resources like water, forests, minerals.
- **Labour**: The second requirement is labour, i.e., people who do the work. Some activities require educated and skilled labour to perform the necessary tasks and others require workers who can do the manual work.
- **Physical capital**: The third requirement is physical capital, i.e., variety of inputs required at every stage during production.
  - a. Tools, machines, buildings can be used in production over many years, and are called **fixed capital**.
  - b. Raw materials and money in hand are called **working capital**. These are used up in production.
- **Human capital:** It is the knowledge and enterprise to be able to put together land, labour and physical capital to produce an output either to use for themselves or to sell in the market

# How did the spread of electricity help farmers in Palampur?

#### Ans:

Electricity has helped the farmers of Palampur in the following ways:

- Most of the houses have electric connections.
- Electricity helped the farmers set up efficient irrigation systems. The Persian wheel, which was
  traditionally used to irrigate the fields, is now replaced with electric tube wells. Such irrigation
  systems have reduced their dependence on rainfall to a negligible amount. Hence, leading to
  better produce and more income.
- Electricity also helps fuel the local small business.

# How are the farmers in Palampur able to grow more crops from the same land?

# How can farmers grow more crops from the same land?

#### Ans:

- The farmers in Palampur practise multiple cropping. They grow atleast two main crops, many are growing potato as the third crop.
- The main reason why farmers are able to grow three different crops in a year in Palampur is due to the well-developed system of irrigation.
- Farmers in the village also use modern farming methods for higher yields which are possible only from a combination of HYV seeds, irrigation, chemical fertilisers, pesticides, etc.

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- Some of the farmers have bought farm machinery like tractors and threshers, which made ploughing and harvesting faster. They have been rewarded with high yields of wheat and other food grains.
- Is it important to increase the area under irrigation? Why?

Yes, it is quite essential to increase the area under irrigation. This is due to the following reasons-Only 40 per cent of the total cultivated land in India is irrigated.

- As a result, the remaining parts are still dependent on rainfall for irrigation and hence, more prone to improper irrigation and crop failure.
- Lack of proper irrigation systems also causes a hinderance in the practice of multiple cropping.
- As the area under irrigation is increased, the probability of crop failure due to insufficient rainfall will also come down, and multiple cropping will become a reality- leading to more produce from the farms.
- 4 Mention two characteristics of traditional method of farming. How are the HYV seeds different from the traditional ones?

#### Ans

- a. Two characteristics of traditional method of farming:
  - Farmers use cow-dung and other natural manure as fertilisers. These are readily available with the farmers who do not have to buy them.
  - Traditional seeds, need less irrigation. So farmers do not have to make arrangements for setting up tubewells.
- b.Unlike traditional seeds, HYV seeds promise to produce much greater amounts of grain on a single plant. As a result, the same piece of land produces far larger quantities of food grains that was not possible earlier—by using traditional seeds
- Farmers of which states were the first to try out the modern farming method in India? How did they do it?

#### Ans:

- Farmers of Punjab, Haryana and Western Uttar Pradesh were the first to try out the modern farming method in India.
- The farmers in these regions set up tubewells for irrigation, and made use of HYV seeds, chemical fertilisers and pesticides in farming. Some of the farmers bought farm machinery like tractor and threshers, which made ploughing and harvesting faster. In this way, they got high yields of wheat.
- 6 How did the Green Revolution in the late 1960s help the Indian farmers?

#### OR

Explain the merits or advantages of HYV seeds.

#### Ans:

The Green Revolution in the late 1960s proved to be a boon for the Indian farmers. It introduced them to cultivation of wheat and rice using high yielding varieties (HYV) of seeds.

• Till the mid 1960s, the seeds used in cultivation were traditional ones with relatively low yields. With the introduction of the Green Revolution, HYV seeds began to be used in same piece of land which promised to produce much greater amounts of grain on a single plant.

- HYV seeds, however, needed plenty of water and also chemical fertilisers and pesticides to produce best results.
- Farmers used this method and were rewarded with high yields of wheat. The surplus wheat was sold in the markets. This strengthened their financial position
- Some farmers were also encouraged to buy farm machinery like tractors and threshers, which made ploughing and harvesting faster.

# 7 The Green Revolution has adversely affected the environment. Do you agree? Give reasons.

OR

"Scientific reports indicate that the modern farming methods have over used the natural resource base." Justify the statement.

OR

# Explain the demerits or disadvantages of HYV seeds.

#### Ans:

Although the Green Revolution proved very beneficial for the farmers and the country's economy, there were also some issues with this period that affected our environment.

- The use of chemical fertilisers and pesticides kill the bacteria and micro organisms that are helpful for the soil resulting in soil degradation.
- Continuous use of groundwater for tubewell irrigation has reduced the water table below the ground. This has created water crisis everywhere.
- The pollution of the soil resulted in the loss of soil fertility.
- The environment was also adversely affected by the Green Revolution due to the consumption of more energy. Environmental resources like soil fertility and groundwater are built up over many years. Once destroyed, it is very difficult to restore them. So, we must take care of the environment to ensure better future.

# 8 What is land? Mention some of the ways to sustain it.

#### Ans:

Land is a natural resource. It is most important factor of production. Land being a natural resource, it is necessary to be very careful in its use. Once destroyed it is very difficult to restore it. Below are given some methods to sustain land:

- We should make minimum use of chemical fertilisers and pesticides. Use of bio compost should be encouraged.
- Multiple cropping or growing more than one crop on a piece of land during the year should be practised. It is the most common way of increasing production on a given piece of land.
- Modern farming methods should be used but in a judicious manner.

Afforestation should be encouraged as it reduces the chances of soil erosion. At the same time, the practice of community agriculture system will also be helpful to a great extent.

# 9 How can you say that the distribution of land is unequal in Palampur? Ans.

- The economic wellbeing of farmers is judged by the amount of land they own. However, not all farmers have sufficient land for cultivation in Palampur.
- In Palampur, about one third of the 450 families are landless, i.e. 150 families, most of them Dalits, have no land for cultivation.
- Of the remaining families who own land, 240 families cultivate very small plots of land less than 2

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- hectares in size. It does not bring adequate income to their families.
- Only 60 families cultivate more than 2 hectares of land and only a few farmers have land more than 10 hectares.
- This uneven distribution of land is observed in the context of Indian villages as well. About one third of the farmers are landless.
- The top 20% of farmers own about 64% of cultivable land while the other small and medium farmers own 36% of arable land. Very few farmers are able to meet their family needs.

## 10 What do the large farmers do with their earnings?

Or

# How do the large farmers utilise surplus farm products to arrange for the capital needed for farming?

## Ans:

- Large farmers have enough surplus farm products which they sell at the market and earn good money. They use this money for lending to small farmers, who are in need of loan.
- They also sometimes use the savings to arrange for the working capital for farming in the next season. They can increase the number of tractors which would increase their fixed capital.
- Some of these farmers might also use the savings to buy cattle, trucks, or to set up shops. These constitute the capital for non-farm activities.

## 11 Give a brief description of the non-farm production activities in Palampur.

#### Ans:

## Dairy:

- It is a common activity in many families of Palampur.
- The people depend on baffalos for their dairy products.
- The milk is sold in Raiganj, the nearby large village. Two traders from Shahpur town have set up collection cum chilling centres at Raiganj from where the milk is transported to far away towns and cities.

# **Small-scale manufacturing:**

- Less than fifty people are engaged in manufacturing which involves very simple production methods and are done on a small scale.
- They are carried out mostly at home or in the fields with the help of family labour.

## **Shopkeepers:**

- Some people are engaged in trade also. The traders of this region are shopkeepers who buy various goods from wholesale markets in the cities and sell them in the villages.
- small general stores in the village selling a wide range of items like rice, wheat, sugar, tea, oil, biscuits, soap, toothpaste, batteries, candles, notebooks, pen, pencil, even some cloth.
- A few of the families whose houses are close to the bus stand have used a part of the space to open small shops to sell vegetables.

## **Transport:**

- Transport has become a fast developing sector of Palampur.
- There are variety of vehicles on the road connecting Palampur to Raiganj. Rickshawallahs, tongawallahs, jeep, tractor, truck drivers and people driving the traditional bullock cart and bogey are people in the transport services.
- They ferry people and goods from one place to another, and in return get paid for it.

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