

CHAPTER -1 THE STORY OF VILLAGE PALAMPUR

Economics

Chapter -1 The story of village Palampur

Ques.1 Modern farming methods require more inputs which are manufactured in industry. Do you agree?

- Ans.1.
- 1) Modern farming methods involve the use of high-yielding variety seeds.
 - 2) These seeds require a combination of chemical fertilisers and pesticides, agricultural implements like tractors and proper irrigation facilities.
 - 3) All these elements are manufactured in industries.

Therefore, I agree, that modern farming methods make use greater industrial inputs.

Ques.2 How did the spread of electricity help farmers in Palampur?

- Ans.2
- 1) Electricity is used to run tubewells in the fields.
 - 2) Electricity is used in various types of small business.
 - 3) Most of the houses have electric connections.

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Ques.3 Is it important to increase the area under irrigation? Why?

Ans.3. Yes, it is important to increase the area under irrigation because :-

- 1) India is an agricultural country and nearly two-third of the people are dependent on farming.
- 2) Out of total cultivated area, less than 40% is irrigated area.
- 3) Modern farming methods require a water supplies.
- 4) India cannot achieve the goal of sufficiency in food grains unless the area under irrigation is increased.

Ques.4 Why are wages in Palampur less than minimum wages?

Ans.4. The wages for farm labourers in Palampur are less than minimum wages fixed by government because there is heavy competition for work among the farm labourers in Palampur village.

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Ques-5. What are the different ways of increasing production on the same piece of land? Use examples to explain.

Ans: The different ways of increasing production on the same piece of land are -

1) Multiple cropping :- It is the most common way of increasing production on a given piece of land. Under it, more than one crop is grown on the same piece of land during the year.

eg: In Palampur farmers are growing Potato as third crop.

2) Modern farming method :- It involves using modern farm machinery like tractors, harvesters, tubewells etc. Pesticides, fertilizers, HYV seeds are also used to increase production.

eg:- The Green Revolution in India is possible only due to modern farming methods.

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Ques. 6 How do the medium and large farmers obtain capital for farming? How is it different from the small farmers?

- Ans. 6
- 1) Medium and large farmers usually have surplus cash by selling their farm produce.
 - 2) Since, they have land and house, they easily get loan from banks.
 - 3) Small farmers, on the other hand, may not be able to get loans. They have to depend on the local merchant and moneylender for loan.

Ques. 7. What can be done so that more non-farm production activities can be started in villages?

- Ans. 7
- 1) The government should set up schemes for landless labourers and small farmers to get cheap loans.
 - 2) The government should set up rural workshops to enable the villagers to build on their skill levels.
 - 3) The government should also work towards improving the infrastructure of villages so that the rural parts of the country are well connected to the urban areas.

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Ques. 8. What is fixed capital?
Ans. 8. Investment or spending money on things which can be used again and again in the production is called fixed capital. eg. building, machines etc.

Ques. 9. What is 'working capital'?
Ans. 9. Spending money on things which are used up in the production process is called working capital. eg. raw material, stationary etc.

Ques. 10. What does 'yield' mean?
Ans. 10. Yield is measured as total crop produced on a given piece of land during a single season.

Ques. 11. What are the main production activities in the village Palampur.

Ans. 11. There are 2 types of activities in the village Palampur —

- i) Farm activities
- ii) Non-Farm activities

i) Farm activity includes agriculture. Most of the people in Palampur do farm activities.

ii) Non-farm activity includes small scale manufacturing, transport, shopkeeping

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Ques.12 What are the merits and demerits of the green revolution?

Ans.12

Merits

- a) Higher yield due to the use of HYV seeds.
- b) A good irrigation system.
- c) Pesticides and insecticides are able to protect the crops from pests and insects.
- d) Machines like harvesters, tractors and threshers have made agriculture faster and easier.
- e) Farmers can sell surplus crops in the market and earn more.

Demerits

- a) Loss of soil fertility due to increased use of chemical fertilisers.
- b) Water table has reduced due to tubewell irrigation.
- c) Excessive use of fertilisers, make the soil alkaline and unfit for cultivation.