ST. ANDREWS SCOTS SCHOOL

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CLASS: VII	SUB: SOCIAL SCIENCE	TOPIC: GEOGRAPHY	CH-1 (Part-2)

FARMING IN INDIA: PAST AND PRESENT

A. Tick (✓) the correct option.

1. Agriculture began when human started **(3) Growing crops**
2. Which is an allied activity of agriculture **(2) Sericulture**
3. Kharif crops depend mainly on **(3) Southwest monsoon**
4. Which soil is best for cotton **(3) Black**
5. Bamboo drip irrigation is found mainly in **(4) Northeast India**
6. HYV seeds were introduced during the **(2) Green Revolution**
7. Which is a fibre crop cultivation practice **(1) Growing cotton**

B. Fill in the blanks.

1. Agriculture comes from the Latin word **agri (field) + culture (to cultivate).**
2. The southwest monsoon arrives between **June** and **September.**
3. Wheat is mainly a **Rabi** crop.
4. Soil rich in humus is more **Fertile.**
5. The Green Revolution increased production of **Wheat** and **Rice.**
6. Phad irrigation is practiced in **Maharashtra.**
7. Animal-based agriculture is also called **Animal Husbandry**

C. Write 'T' for true and 'F' for false statements.

1. Forestry is an allied activity of agriculture. **True**
2. Zaid crops are grown during winter. **False**
3. Soil contains living organisms. **True**
4. HYV seeds can always be reused. **False**
5. The monsoon is important for Indian agriculture. **True**

6. Traditional farming ignores nature. **False**

D. Answer the following questions in brief:

1. What is agriculture?

The practice of growing crops and rearing animals to produce food, raw materials, and other useful products is called agriculture.

2. Name any two allied activities?

Rearing animals, Beekeeping, fisheries, silk production are the allied activities.

3. What is crop rotation?

Crop rotation refers when the farmers grew different crops in the same field in different seasons. This prevented the soil from losing the same nutrients again and again.

4. Why are monsoons important?

Monsoons are the lifeline of Indian agriculture because the southwest monsoon (June-September) supports kharif crops, while the northeast monsoon (October-December) benefits eastern and southern regions.

5. What is Irrigation?

The artificial supply of water to crops through canals, wells, tanks, or modern systems is called irrigation.

6. Name one traditional irrigation system?

Phad system of irrigation and Bamboo drip irrigation system.

E. Answer the following questions in detail:

1. Describe the major forms such as subsistence, commercial, plantation and mixed farming, and mention where they are commonly practiced?

The major forms of farmings are:

Subsistence farming:

Crops are grown mainly for the farmer's family or local use, with little surplus for sale. It is commonly practiced in India, Bangladesh and other densely populated parts of Asia.

Commercial farming

Crops are produced on a large scale for sale in markets, often focusing on cash crops like cotton, sugarcane or tea. It is commonly practiced in USA, Canada, Australia and other parts of Europe.

Plantation farming

It involves growing a single cash crop on a large estate, using hired labour and modern methods. Tea is growing in India and Sri Lanka, Coffee in Brazil.

Mixed farming

It is a system where farmers grow crops and rear livestock together. This method makes efficient use of land and resources, as animals provide manure for crops, while crops provide fodder for animals. It is commonly practiced in Europe, North America.

2. Explain the Kharif, Rabi, and Zaid seasons, including their sowing/ harvesting periods and main crops grown in each?

❖ **Kharif (Monsoon crops)**

Crops depend heavily on monsoon rains; a good monsoon leads to a good harvest.

Sowing: mid June - mid August

Harvesting: October- November

Main crops: Rice, Maize, Jowar, Bajra, Sugarcane, Groundnut, Cotton

❖ **Rabi (Winter crops)**

Crops grow slowly during winter and harvested when temperature rises in spring.

Sowing: mid October - mid December

Harvesting: mid March – mid May

Main crops: Wheat, Barley, Gram, Peas, Mustard

❖ **Zaid (Summer crops)**

Grown in the short period between rabi and kharif seasons and mature quickly.

Sowing: March – May

Harvesting: June – September

Main crops: Watermelon, Cucumber, Muskmelon, Pumpkin

3. Omitted

4. Omitted

5. Explain older methods like wells and canals and compare them with modern techniques such as drip and sprinker irrigation?

❖ **Older methods:**

Phad methods of irrigation: This is a community- based irrigation methods mainly found in Maharashtra. In this system, farmers work together to build small canals that divert water from a river to their fields.

Bamboo drip irrigation system: This system is practiced in parts of northeastern India. Farmers use hollow bamboo pipes to carry water from natural springs to their fields. The water slowly drip onto the plants, reducing wastage and providing moisture directly to the roots.

❖ **Modern techniques:**

Drip irrigation: It is alo called (trickle irrigation) supplies water slowly and directly to the roots of plants through a network of pipes and small openings called **emitters**. This method reduces water wastage and ensures that plant receive the right amount of moisture.

Sprinkler irrigation: Sprinkler irrigation sprays water into the air through rotation nozzles. The water then falls on the crops like rainfall, covering a large area evenly.

6. Define the Green Revolution and describe how new technology and HYV seeds increased food production in India?

The Green Revolution began in India led by scientists such as M.S Swaminathan in the 1960s and 1970s to increase food production. It introduced high- yielding varieties seeds, better irrigation, chemical fertilisers, pesticides, and modern machines. This greatly increased the production of crops like wheat and rice and helped India become self- sufficient in food.