

EXERCISES

- 1) Every village in India is surveyed once in ten years during the census and some of details are presented in the following format. Fill up the following based on information on Palampur.
- (a) Location: Western Uttar Pradesh
- (b) Total area of the village: 226 hectares
- (c) Land use: (in hectares)
- Irrigated: 200
 - Unirrigated: (—)
 - Land not available for cultivation: 26 hectares
- (d) Facilities:
- Educational: Palampur has 2 Primary Schools and ~~one~~ a high ~~speed~~ school.
 - Medical: Palampur has a Primary Health Centre and a Private Dispensary where sick are treated.
 - Market: Shahpur & Raiganj are Palampur village's nearest market.
 - Electricity Supply: Electricity is available to almost all the houses. It is used in small business. It also helps in pumping water in fields through tubewells.
 - Communication: Palampur is connected to its nearest village Raiganj and nearest town Shahpur through an all weather road. Here, bullock carts, tongas, bogeys loaded with jaggery & other commodities to motor vehicles, jeeps, tractors, & trucks.

→ Nearest town: Shahpur is the nearest town to Palampur.

2) Modern farming methods require more ~~input~~ inputs which are manufactured in industry. Do you agree? Yes, modern farming methods require machinery inputs which are manufactured in industry. It requires High yielding varieties (HYVs) seeds, better irrigation system, Pesticides, Fertilisers, manures, dams, canals, pump sets, Electricity, farm machinery and diesel for the agriculture. This will provide with higher and better yield with a small piece of land too. But it is too expensive to afford.

3) How did the spread of electricity help farmers in Palampur?

Electricity helped farmers in Palampur in means of irrigation. They replaced Persian-wheels system with electric-run tubewells which were capable of irrigating much larger lands in lesser time & effectively. Firstly, they were installed by government, then it was installed privately. Around the mid 1970s, all the cultivable land of 200 hectares was irrigated.

4) Is it important to increase the area under irrigation?

Why?

Yes, it is important to increase the area under irrigation as it'll help in better and easier agriculture. It also allows the farmers to grow multiple crops per year. It also makes their work more efficient & higher yields of better quality with less effort can be seen. Due to dependency on rains totally makes some ~~reasons~~ farmers bound to incur a loss. If the country's agricultural land will be under irrigation, farmers will not have to face losses. It will also increase the country's economy.

5) Construct a table on the distribution of land among the 450 families of Palampur.

Average area of land cultivated	No. of families	% of families	% of land cultivated
Nil	150	33	0
Less than 2ha/ per family	240	54	32
More than 2ha/ family	60	13	68

6) Why are the wages of farm labourers in Palampur less than minimum wages.

The minimum wages for labourers set by government is ₹300/day. But the labourers are paid less than this, i.e. ₹160/day. This is because the competition is higher between the labourers. As the large farmers are affording farm machines like tractors, threshers and harvesters is also a very strong aspect which affects the competition between the labourers and because of this many labourers have become workless.

8) What are the different ways of increasing production on the same piece of land? Use examples to explain. There are two ways of increasing production on the same piece of land, they are as follows:—

→ Multiple Cropping: Multiple cropping is to grow more than one crop from the same piece of land within a year. This can be practised when there'll be presence of better irrigation facilities.

Ex:— The farmers of Palampur village practise multiple cropping. They grow kharif crops like Paddy and Bajra & wheat as rabi crop as their main crops. Many grow potatoes as well as their third crop.

→ Modern farming methods:- Modern farming methods uses machinery tools which are manufactured in factories. They use High yielding varieties (HYVs) seeds, better ~~or~~ irrigation, canals, pump sets, electricity, dams, & use of manures, pesticides, chemical fertilizers, farm machinery which requires diesel. This helps in increasing the yield from even a small piece of land in less time & less effort. It's very expensive for the small farmers to afford and has no chances of facing a loss.

Q) Describe the work of a farmer with one acre land. The work of a farmer with 1ha. land is very difficult as he doesn't get any surplus production which he can sell and earn money. He uses traditional methods of farming. He is unable to access the modern farming as it is too expensive for a small farmer to afford it. This is also a reason he's unable to get more yield. He is also unable to get work under the medium and large farmers as ~~they~~ they aren't hiring people as they have tractors, threshers & harvesters for their work. Even if they get work, they are paid very less wages from the ~~that~~ minimum wages set by the government. They also take

loans from the medium & large farmers on very high interest rate which they're unable to repay. This is the condition of a farmer with 1ha of land.

10) How do the and large farmers obtain capital for farming? How is it different from the small farmers? The medium and large farmers use modern methods of farming from which they get surplus yield and they sell ~~it~~ it in the markets and earn money. They use this money either for buying cattles, or trucks or use it for buying capital for next season's farming. But this is not the case of small farmers, they take loans from the medium & large farmers to arrange the capital for farming.

11) On what terms did Saurita get a loan from Tejpal Singh? Would Saurita's conditions be different if she could get a loan from the bank at a low rate of interest?

Saurita was a small farmer with 1ha land. She required ₹3000 for her farming articles. But she didn't had the capital, so she took a loan from a large farmer Tejpal Singh. He gave her loan at an interest of 24% for four months. She also promised to work in his

field in the harvest season with wages ₹100/day. She agrees to this too. But it was very difficult for her because she was a mother of three children, she had her household responsibilities, had to work on her own field and then work in Tejpal Singh's field.

14) What can be done so that more non-farm production activities can be started in villages?

→ The steps to be taken to start more non-farm production activities in villages are as follows:

→ The government should ~~be~~ set up schemes whereby landless labourers and small farmers are able to get cheap loans to start small individual/community business.

→ In addition to financial assistance, the government should set up rural workshops to enable the villagers to build on their skill levels.

→ The government should ~~also~~ ~~also~~ work towards improving the infrastructure of villages so that the rural parts of the country are well connected to the urban areas.