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Subject - Economics

Exercises

1. Every village in India is surveyed once in ten years during the Census and some of the details are presented in the following format. Fill up the following based on information on Palampur.

a. Location:

Bulandshahr district, Western Uttar Pradesh.

b. Total area of the village:
226 hectares

c. Land use (in hectares):

Cultivated land	Land not available for cultivation (Area covering
irrigated	unirrigated dwellings, roads, ponds, grazing ground).
200 hectares	26 hectares

d. Facilities :

Educational :- One 1 high School
2 Primary School

Medical :- 1 Primary health centre
run by the Government
1 Private dispensary

Market :- Small market in
Palampur village
(Raiganj and Shalpur)

Electricity :- Electric supply is
also there

Communication :- Telephones and
Transport facilities
like. tongas, bogeys, etc
are there in village.

Nearest
Town :- Shalpur.

2. Modern Farming methods require more inputs which are manufactured in industry. Do you agree?

Modern farming methods involve the use of high-yielding variety seeds. These seeds require a combination of chemical fertilisers and pesticides, agricultural implements like tractors, and proper irrigation facilities like electric tube wells to produce the best results.

Hence it would be right to say that modern farming methods make use of a greater number of industrial outputs as compared to traditional farming method.

3. How did the Spread of electricity help farmers in Palampur?

The Spread of electricity in Palampur transformed the System of irrigation in the village. Persian wheels gave way to electric - run tube wells, which need not the dependence of the farmers upon rain fall, and enable a larger area of land to be irrigated. By mid - 1970s, the entire cultivated area of 200 hectares was irrigated.

4. Is it important to increase the area under irrigation? why?

Monsoons are by their very nature erratic and variable. So farming cannot entirely depend upon rain. Large portions of the cultivated land is not well irrigated and is dependent entirely upon rains. If there is failure of rain means failure of crop so the area should be well cultivated.

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

Total area of land under cultivation in Palampur = 200 hectares

Average area of land cultivated	Number of families	Percent of families	Percent of land ^(app)
Nil	150	33	0
Less than 2 hectares Per family	240	54	32
More than 2 hectares Per family	60	13	68

6. Why are the wages for farm labourer in Palampur less than minimum wages?

Though the minimum wages fixed by the government for a farm labourer is Rs 60 per day, farm labourer in Palampur get paid much less about 35 to 40 rupees a day. The reason for this is the competition for work among the agricultural labourers in the village.

The use of modern agricultural implements like tractors, threshers and harvesters also reduces the amount of agricultural labour required. This further intensifies the competition among the labourers looking for jobs.

8. Q. What are the different ways of increase production on the same piece of land? Use examples to explain.

Multiple cropping and the use of modern farming methods are the two common ways of increasing production on the same piece of land. Multiple cropping involves growing more than one crop on a piece of land during the year. For example, farmers in the western part of Uttar Pradesh practise multiple cropping. During the rainy season (Kharif) they grow jowar and bajra these are then used to feed cattles.

9. Describe the work of a farmer with 1 hectare of land.

The situation of a farmer with 1 hectare of land is truly problematic. Since the land is small for cultivation, output is generally low. The produce is barely survival of his family. After a long effort of ploughing and sowing seeds, the output depends on the availability of water for irrigation. If irrigation facilities are not available or non-availability of then the output depends on rainfall. For the low output all of his cultivation will end up with repaying the loan for buying seed, fertiliser etc. Thus he remains in vicious circle of loans.

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

Medium and large farmers retain a part of their produce and sell the surplus in the market. This provides them with the required capital of farming. Most of them even use these earnings to provide loans to small farmers. Due to the small size of their farms, their total production is small. Their produce is kept for their needs or for repaying their lenders. As a result, they have no surplus to sell in the market, and thus ~~have~~ have no savings.

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

Sanita required money for buying seeds, fertilisers and pesticides and water for irrigation. She also needed money for repairing her farm instruments. So she decided to borrow money from Tejpal Singh, a large farmer in her village. Tejpal Singh agreed to give the loan of ₹ 3000 at an interest rate of 24 per cent for 4 months. He also got her to agree to work on his field during the harvest season for ₹ 35 a day. Knowing that it was difficult for a small farmer like her to get loan, so she agreed to these tough conditions.

14. What can be done so that non farm production activities can be started in villages?

These things that need to be done to encourage non-farm production activities in village:

(i) The government should set up schemes whereby landless labourers and small farmers are able to get cheap loans to start small individual / community businesses.

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

(iii) 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.