

# TEACHER'S HANDBOOK



STELLAR LEARNING

# Economics

9

On  
Board!

BOOKS

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# The Story of Village Palampur

## Milestone

### Multiple-Choice Questions

- The main economic activity of Palampur village is
  - hunting.
  - fishing.
  - farming.
  - dairy production.

**Ans:** (c) farming.

- What is the main source of irrigation in Palampur?
  - Tube wells
  - Wells
  - Persian Wheel
  - Rainwater harvesting

**Ans:** (a) Tube wells

- Which state uses chemical fertilisers the most?
  - Haryana
  - Punjab
  - Uttar Pradesh
  - Bihar

**Ans:** (b) Punjab

### Very Short Answer Type Questions

- Name the standard unit of measuring land.

**Ans:** The standard unit of measuring land is hectare.

- What do you mean by working capital?

**Ans:** Raw materials and money in hand are called working capital.

- Farmer's plough is an example of which factor of production?

Or

Which factor of production is a farmer's plough?

**Ans:** Farmer's plough comes under the category of fixed capital.

### Short Answer Type Questions

- Describe the process of multiple cropping as practised in Palampur.

**Ans:** Multiple cropping refers to growing more than one crop on the same piece of land during an year. It is the most common way of increasing production. Every piece of land is cultivated in

Palampur. During the kharif season farmers grow jowar and bajra which are used as cattle feed. It is followed by cultivation of potato between October and December. During the rabi season, fields are sown with wheat. A part of the land area is also devoted to sugarcane which is harvested once every year.

- Why do the small farmers borrow money?

**Ans:** Most small farmers are forced to borrow money in order to arrange for the capital. They borrow from large farmers or the village moneylenders or the traders who supply various inputs for the farming activities. A high rate of interest is levied on these loans due to which they are put to great distress to repay the loan.

- Which Indian states were the first to try out the modern farming methods? What were the results?

**Ans:** Punjab, Haryana and Western Uttar Pradesh were the first states in India to try out the modern farming methods. Many farmers in these regions set up tube-wells for irrigation purpose and used the HYV seeds, chemical fertilisers and pesticides for cultivation of various crops. Some of them also used farm machinery, like tractors and threshers, which made ploughing and harvesting faster. All these modern techniques resulted in the high yields of wheat per hectare, due to which farmers now had greater amounts of surplus wheat which they can sell in the markets.

### Long Answer Type Questions

- Elucidate why small farmers get caught in debt.

**Ans:** Most of the small farmers were forced to borrow money in order to arrange for the capital. They borrowed money from large farmers or the village moneylenders or the traders who supply various inputs for cultivation. On the capital borrowed, a high rate of interest was levied. They were put

to great distress to pay back the loans. On the contrary, the medium and large farmers have their own savings from farming. They were able to arrange for their own capital. They used to sell their surplus in the market. A part of this is saved and the rest is used to buy machinery and other raw materials or lend it to the small farmers to make more profit.

11. What are the steps that can be taken for improving farm productivity?

**Ans:** Following are the five different ways for increasing the farm productivity:

- i. Use of multiple cropping. It means growing more than one crop on a given piece of land at the same time.
- ii. Use of HYV's. These can be used to produce much greater amounts of grain in a single plant.
- iii. Use of chemical fertilizers and pesticides. Their use produce better results by providing sufficient materials to the soil and pesticides protecting the crops from pest attacks.
- iv. Use of modern equipment like tractors, threshers, which made ploughing and harvesting faster.
- v. Use of tube wells for irrigation. Tube wells run by electricity irrigate much larger area in a more effective manner and increase the yields.

12. Why do modern farming methods require a farmer to have more cash than was required before?

**Ans:** The modern farming methods require a farmer to have more cash than was required before because of following reasons:

- In modern farming, the ploughing is done using tractors which requires more capital in comparison to manual ploughing. Using tractors for ploughing is less time consuming with better result and productivity.
- Tube wells and pumping sets are used in modern farming, which results in investment of more capital.
- An extra cost is also incurred for using advanced technology, better pest control, HYVs seeds, chemical fertilizers, etc.

## Self-Assessment

### Multiple-Choice Questions

1. Green Revolution is related to
 

(a) dairy production	(b) fishing
(c) grain production	(d) tea production

**Ans:** (c) grain production

2. Growing more than one crop on a piece of land during a year is known as

- |                         |                       |
|-------------------------|-----------------------|
| (a) mixed farming       | (b) multiple cropping |
| (c) subsistence farming | (d) intensive farming |

**Ans:** (b) multiple cropping

3. Tools, machines, buildings can be used for many years and are called

- |                   |                     |
|-------------------|---------------------|
| (a) fixed capital | (b) working capital |
| (c) human capital | (d) none of these   |

**Ans:** (a) fixed capital

### Assertion-Reason Type Questions

**For question numbers 4 to 7, two statements are given as Assertion (A) and Reason (R). Read the statements and choose the correct option from (a), (b), (c) and (d) as given below.**

- (a) Both A and R are true and R is the correct explanation of A.
- (b) Both A and R are true but R is not the correct explanation of A.
- (c) A is true but R is false.
- (d) A is false but R is true.

4. **Assertion (A):** Farming is the main production activity in Palampur.

**Reason (R):** 75 per cent of the people who are working are dependent on farming for their livelihood.

**Ans:** (a) Reason (R) is the correct explanation of Assertion (A) because 75 per cent of the people who are working are dependent on farming for their livelihood and farming is the main production activity in Palampur.

5. **Assertion (A):** Palampur would resemble a village of the eastern part of the state of Uttar Pradesh.

**Reason (R):** All land is cultivated in Palampur. No land is left idle.

**Ans:** (d) Assertion (A) is wrong because Palampur would resemble a village of the western part of the state of Uttar Pradesh.

6. **Assertion (A):** Compared to the traditional seeds, the HYV seeds promised to produce much greater amounts of grain on a single plant.

**Reason (R):** The Green Revolution in the late 1970s introduced the Indian farmer to cultivation of wheat and rice using high yielding varieties (HYVs) of seeds.

**Ans:** (c) Reason (R) is wrong because, the Green Revolution in the late 1960s introduced the Indian farmer to cultivation of wheat and rice by using high yielding varieties of seeds.

7. **Assertion (A):** Farmers of Punjab, Haryana and western Uttar Pradesh were the first to try out the modern farming method in India.

**Reason (R):** The farmers in these regions set up tube-wells for irrigation, and made use of HYV seeds, chemical fertilisers and pesticides in farming.

**Ans:** (a) Reason (R) is the correct explanation of Assertion (A) because Reason (R) proves as the farmers of Punjab, Haryana and Western Uttar Pradesh were the first to set up tube-wells for irrigation, and made use of HYV seeds, chemical fertilisers and pesticides in farming.

### Match the Following

8. Match the following items given in Column A with those in Column B. Choose the correct answer from the options given below:

Column A (Years)	Column B (Cultivated Area in Million Hectares)
A 1990-91	1 157
B 2000-01	2 156
C 1950-51	3 129
D 2014-15	4 155

Codes:

	A	B	C	D
(a)	1	2	3	4
(b)	2	4	1	3
(c)	4	1	3	2
(d)	1	3	2	4

**Ans:** (a)

### Find the Incorrect Option

9. (a) In Palampur, about one third of the 450 families are landless.  
 (b) In Palampur, there are 60 families of medium and large farmers who cultivate more than 5 hectares of land.  
 (c) The minimum wages for a farm labourer set by the government is ₹ 300 per day (March 2017), but Dala gets only ₹ 160.  
 (d) Dairy is a common activity in many families of Palampur.

**Ans:** (b)

### Correct the Following Statement and Rewrite

10. The fertility of soil is associated with the Green Revolution due to increased use of chemical fertilisers, in many areas.

**Ans:** In many areas, Green Revolution is associated with the loss of soil fertility due to increased use of chemical fertilisers.

### Fill in the Blanks

11. Land, labour, capital and entrepreneurship are known as **factors of production**.

12. Green Revolution is associated with the loss of **soil fertility** due to increase in use of chemical fertilisers.

13. **Physical capital** is the amount of money or assets that are invested in business.

### Very Short Answer Type Questions

14. Name any three sources of irrigation in Palampur.

**Ans:** Tanks, tube-wells and canals are three sources of irrigation in Palampur.

15. What is the meaning of 'capital' with respect to agriculture?

**Ans:** The meaning of 'capital' with respect to agriculture is physical capital, i.e. the variety of inputs required at every stage during production.

16. Define yield.

**Ans:** Yield is measured as crop produced on a given piece of land during a single season.

### Short Answer Type Questions

17. State four requirements for production.

**Ans:** The four requirements of production are Land, Labour, Physical capital and Human capital.

- Land is required for growing crops, building factories and infrastructure. It is a passive factor of production.
- Different production activities require different types of workers; each worker provides labour necessary for production.
- Physical capital means the variety of inputs like machines, tools, raw materials and money required at every stage of production.
- Human capital refers to knowledge and enterprise that are required to put together land labour and physical capital to produce an output.

18. Gopal has set-up a dairy in Palampur. What are two factors he should consider for starting a successful business here?

**Ans:** Dairy is a common activity in many families of Palampur. In order to start a successful dairy business, Gopal should ensure an uninterrupted supply of fodder (various kinds of grass and the jowar) for buffaloes. Another factor which should be taken care of is the availability of the market for the product to be sold. Also there should be a collection cum chilling centres for storing the milk.

19. Name the crops that are grown in Palampur. In which seasons are they grown?

**Ans:** In Palampur three or more crops are produced during a year on a given piece of land. In the rainy (kharif) season, farmers grow jowar and bajra. Potato is cultivated between October and December. In the winter (rabi) season, wheat is

cultivated. Sugar cane is also grown on a part of the land. All farmers of Palampur grow at least two main crops and a third crop. This has been possible because of the well-developed system of irrigation in the village. Electricity has transformed the irrigation system in Palampur.

20. 'In villages across India, farming is the main production activity'. Justify the statement.

**Ans:** It is true that farming is the main production activity in the villages across India. It is because of the lack of development activities and infrastructure in villages. Urban areas are mostly far away from the villages so people are left with no other option than to opt for farming activities for their livelihood. However, now-a-days the government has taken many initiatives to make the farming activities more attractive. Government offers the Minimum Support Price (MSP) to the farmers for their crop which in turn assures the farmers of their income.

### Paragraph Based Questions

21. Read the sources given below and answer the questions that follow:

**Source A - Is there a way one can grow more from the same land?**

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 tube-wells for irrigation, and made use of HYV seeds, chemical fertilisers and pesticides in farming. Some of them bought farm machinery, like tractors and threshers, which made ploughing and harvesting faster. They were rewarded with high yields of wheat.

- (a) Discuss the cultivation methods adopted by the farmers of Punjab, Haryana and Western Uttar Pradesh.

**Source B - Will the land sustain?**

Land being a natural resource, it is necessary to be careful in its use. Scientific reports indicate that the modern farming methods have overused the natural resource base.

- (b) Do you agree that modern farming methods are responsible for depleting natural resources? Give reasons.

**Source C - Dairy — the other common activity**

Dairy is a common activity in many families of Palampur. People feed their buffaloes on various kinds of grass and the jowar and bajra that grows during the rainy season.

- (c) Which type of crops are grown in rainy season?

**Ans:** (a) Farmers of Punjab, Haryana and Western Uttar Pradesh were the first in India to try modern farming methods. They adopted modern

cultivation methods such as:

- The farmers set up tube-wells for irrigation.
- Use of HYV seeds, chemical fertilisers and pesticides in farming.
- They also bought modern farm machinery, like tractors and threshers, which made ploughing and harvesting faster.

(b) Yes, we do agree that modern farming methods are somewhere responsible for depleting our natural resources. Some of the reasons are overuse of chemical fertilizers, groundwater and soil degradation.

(c) Jowar and Bajra are grown in rainy season.

### Case Based Questions

22. The aim of production is to produce the goods and services that we want. There are four requirements for production of goods and services. The first requirement is land, and other natural resources such as water, forests, minerals. The second requirement is labour, i.e. people who will do the work. Some production activities require highly educated workers to perform the necessary tasks. Other activities require workers who can do manual work. Each worker is providing the labour necessary for production. The third requirement is physical capital, i.e. the variety of inputs required at every stage during production. These inputs include tools, machines, buildings. Tools and machines range from very simple tools such as a farmer's plough to sophisticated machines such as generators, turbines, computers, etc. Tools, machines, buildings can be used in production over many years, and are called fixed capital. Other necessary physical capital includes raw materials and money in hand. Production requires a variety of raw materials such as the yarn used by the weaver and the clay used by the potter. Also, some money is always required during production to make payments and buy other necessary items. Raw materials and money in hand are called working capital. Unlike tools, machines and buildings, these are used up in production. There is a fourth requirement too. You will need knowledge and enterprise to be able to put together land, labour and physical capital and produce an output either to use yourself or to sell in the market. This these days is called human capital.

22.1 Which of the following category of resources does money in hand fall into?

- (a) human capital
- (b) physical capital
- (c) natural resources



(d) both (a) and (b)

**Ans.** (b) physical capital

**22.2** Which of the following is an example of fixed capital?

- (a) labour (b) computers  
(c) knowledge (d) none of these

**Ans.** (b) computers

**22.3** What does the given passage talk about?

- (a) it talks about the artificial resources in India  
(b) it talks about the prerequisites for production  
(c) it talks about the perishable nature of resources  
(d) it talks about the aim of production

**Ans.** (b) it talks about the prerequisites for production

**22.4** Why is human capital required for production?

- (a) to arrange physical and working capital  
(b) to put together land, labour and physical capital  
(c) to rectify the error of machinery  
(d) to substitute for physical capital

**Ans.** (b) to put together land, labour and physical capital

**23.** Palampur is well-connected with neighbouring villages and towns. Raiganj, a big village, is 3 km from Palampur. An all-weather road connects the village to Raiganj and further on to the nearest small town of Shahpur. Many kinds of transport are visible on this road starting from bullock carts, tongas, bogeys (wooden cart drawn by buffalos) loaded with jaggery (gur) and other commodities to motor vehicles like motorcycles, jeeps, tractors and trucks. This village has about 450 families belonging to several different castes. The 80 upper caste families own the majority of land in the village. Their houses, some of them quite large, are made of brick with cement plastering. The SCs (dalits) comprise one-third of the population and live in one corner of the village and in much smaller houses some of which are of mud and straw. Most of the houses have electric connections. Electricity powers all the tube wells in the fields and is used in various types of small business. Palampur has two primary schools and one high school. There is a primary health centre run by the government and one private dispensary where the sick are treated.

**23.1** Which one of the following statements is incorrect?

- (a) it is connected to village Raiganj with all-weather road  
(b) bullock carts, tongas, bogeys along with motorcycles, jeeps, tractors and trucks are common means of transportation

- (c) the village has 450 families in total of which only 80 are upper caste families  
(d) the SCs make up for two-third of the village population

**Ans.** (d) the SCs make up for two-third of the village population

**23.2** The SCs are also known as .....

- (a) dalits  
(b) brahmins  
(c) Shahpuri  
(d) Raiganjwaasi

**Ans.** (a) dalits

**23.3** What sort of houses can be found in Palampur?

- (a) made of brick with cement plastering  
(b) made of mud and straw  
(c) made of wood and steel  
(d) only (a) and (b)

**Ans.** (d) only (a) and (b)

**23.4** What sort of treatment did the SC population of the village Palampur receive?

- (a) they had better houses than most people  
(b) they had been cornered in the village  
(c) they were barred from entering the village schools  
(d) they could not sell things in the market of Palampur

**Ans.** (b) they had been pushed to one corner of the village

### Long Answer Type Questions

**24.** Write in detail about the production activities, other than agriculture, that have been taken up by the people of Palampur.

**Ans:** Non-farming activities refer to the activities apart from farming. Some of the non-farming activities taken up by the people of Palampur are as follows:

- **Dairy farming:** People in Palampur rear buffaloes. Milk is sold in nearby villages. Some people also set up collection and chilling centres from where milk is transported to the nearby cities and towns. It has become an important secondary source of income for rural families.
- **Shop keeping:** Shopkeepers in Palampur buy goods from wholesale markets in the cities and sell them in the villages. Small stores sell a wide range of products like rice, wheat, sugar, oil, etc.
- **Small scale manufacturing:** This involves simple production methods and is done on small scale. These are carried out at home with family members as labourers.

- **Transport:** There are different means of transport like rickshaws, tongas, trucks, jeeps and tractors. These means of transport are used to transport goods and people from villages to cities and the people get for this.

25. Should farmers generate surplus? With regard to the amount of surplus generated, discuss how small farmers and large farmers procure capital.

**Ans:** Yes, it is necessary for the farmers to generate surplus crops so that in addition to fulfilling their own needs they can sell the surplus in the market to earn profits. Medium and large farmers sell surplus farm produce in the market and earn good money. The money so earned is used to buy capital for farming in the next season. Thus, medium and large farmers are able to arrange the capital required for farming from their own savings. On the other hand, small farmers do not have their own savings because their production is small which is mainly used for fulfilling their own family needs. Small farmers, therefore, avail loans from the medium and large farmers at very high rates of interest. Small farmers also borrow money from various inputs for cultivation. These farmers are put to a great distress to repay the loan.

26. Read the extract and answer the questions that follow:

To grow more than one crop on a piece of land during the year is known as multiple cropping. It is the most common way of increasing production on a given piece of land. All farmers in Palampur grow at least two main crops; many are growing potato as the third crop in the past fifteen to twenty years. Yield is measured as crop produced on a given piece of land during a single season. Till the mid 1960s, the seeds used in cultivation were traditional ones with relatively low yields. Traditional seeds needed less irrigation. Farmers used cow-dung and other natural manure as fertilizers. All these were readily available with the farmers who did not have to buy them. The Green Revolution in the late 1960s introduced the Indian farmer to cultivation of wheat and rice using high yielding varieties (HYVs) of seeds.

- Define the term multiple cropping.
- Discuss the cultivation methods used in mid 1960s.
- Define yield.

**Ans:** (a) When more than one crop is grown on a piece of land during one year is known as multiple cropping. This method is used in order to increase production on a given piece of land.

- The traditional seeds with low yields were used in cultivation till the mid 1960s. The traditional seeds need less water for irrigation. Farmers used cow-dung and other natural manure as fertilizers.
- Yield is measured as crop produced on a given piece of land during a single season.

## Let's Compete

### Multiple-Choice Questions

1. Which of the following is a *Rabi* crop?

- Wheat
- Rice
- Cotton
- Jowar

**Ans:** (a) Wheat

2. Which of the following is fixed capital?

- Tools and machines
- Fertilisers and pesticides
- Soil
- Seeds

**Ans:** (a) Tools and machines

3. Money in hand is an example of

- human capital.
- fixed capital.
- working capital.
- physical capital.

**Ans:** (c) working capital.

4. HYV seeds stands for

- Heavy-Yielding Variety seeds.
- High-Yielding Variety seeds.
- Half-Yielding Variety seeds.
- None of these.

**Ans:** (b) High-Yielding Variety seeds.

5. Which one is a natural resource?

- Labour
- Raw materials
- Minerals
- None of these

**Ans:** (c) Minerals

6. The activities such as small manufacturing, transport, shop-keeping are referred to as

- non-economic activities.
- non-farming activities.
- non-traditional activities.
- non-market activities.

**Ans:** (b) non-farming activities.

7. Which one of the following persons puts together land, labour and capital?

- Moneylender
- Entrepreneur
- Zamindar
- Manager

**Ans:** (b) Entrepreneur

8. A farmer who owns one hectare of land is treated as a

- medium farmer.
- small farmer.
- large farmer.
- none of these.

**Ans:** (b) small farmer.

9. 'White Revolution' is related to
- (a) milk production.
  - (b) grain production.
  - (c) irrigation.
  - (d) rainwater harvesting.

**Ans:** (a) milk production.

10. Where do most of the small farmers borrow money from to arrange for capital in Palampur?
- (a) Banks
  - (b) Cooperative societies
  - (c) Moneylenders
  - (d) Friends and relatives

**Ans:** (c) Moneylenders

## Value-based Questions

(Optional)

1. What social and moral values of rural India are reflected in the story of the hypothetical village of Palampur?

**Ans:** Some of the important social and moral values of rural India reflected in the story of the hypothetical village of Palampur are as follows:

- Land distribution among the farmers of Palampur
- Cropping seasons (*Kharif* and *Rabi*)
- Source of labour who works in the agricultural fields

- Difference in wages of the labourers working in the fields
  - Source of capital needed for cultivation
  - Non-farming activities like Dairy, etc.
  - Development in the transport sector
  - Features of small scale manufacturing
2. Exploitation is a way of life for farmers in India. Do you agree with this statement? Also, do you think exploitation is morally wrong? Justify your answer.

**Ans:** Yes, I completely agree with the statement that, exploitation is a way of life for farmers in India. Primarily the small farmers are the victim of exploitation in India. They own small pieces of land and they are always in need of funds for the cultivation purpose. Most of them are at the mercy of village moneylenders, etc. for loans. The moneylenders charge exorbitant rate of interest from these small farmers. In case of crop failure the small farmers are not able to repay the loans and they are forced to sell their piece of land to the moneylenders. Yes, exploitation in any form is morally wrong.

# 2

## People as Resource

### Milestone

#### Multiple-Choice Questions

1. Name the sector of which biotechnology is a part of?  
(a) Primary sector                      (b) Secondary sector  
(c) Tertiary sector                      (d) None of these

**Ans:** (c) Tertiary sector

2. Human resource which is further developed through education and health measures is called  
(a) human capital foundation.  
(b) human capital formation.  
(c) human capital function.  
(d) human capital facility.

**Ans:** (b) human capital formation.

3. Disguised unemployment can be found in  
(a) social forestry.                      (b) mining sector.  
(c) service sector.                      (d) agriculture sector.

**Ans:** (d) agriculture sector.

#### Very Short Answer Type Questions

4. A person is making paper envelopes. In which sector should his activity be included?

**Ans:** This person is making paper envelopes, so his activity should be included in secondary sector.

5. What is the aim of the National Health Policy of India?

**Ans:** The National Health Policy aims at improving the accessibility of healthcare, family welfare and nutritional services with special focus on the underprivileged segment of the population.

#### Short Answer Type Questions

6. How is unemployment an obstacle to economic growth? Explain.

**Ans:** Unemployment has negative effects on the economic development of a country. There is

wastage of manpower resources. It leads to increase in economic overload and the number of dependents on the working population. The quality of life of every individual in the society is adversely affected. Youth suffers from the feeling of hopelessness. The time duration lost in the unemployment is an irrecoverable loss. It is the loss of productivity which cannot be compensated. Thus, unemployment is an obstacle to economic growth.

7. What is the significance of human resource?

**Ans:** Human resource is superior to other sources like physical capital because it can make use of other sources like land and physical capital. Human resource can develop other sources according to its skills and education because they could not develop on their own. A large population can be turned into a productive asset by proper investment in developing skills, emphasising on academic and vocational aspects of students, and making available opportunities accessible to large section of people like technological know how.

8. What measures have been taken by the government to improve literacy in India?

**Ans:** "Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan is one of the most significant steps towards providing elementary education to all children in the age group of 6-14 years which is a time-bound initiative of the Central Government in cooperation with the States, the Local Government and the community for achieving the goal of universalisation of elementary education." Apart from it, bridge courses and back-to-school camps have been initiated in order to increase the enrolment in elementary education. Mid-day meal scheme was introduced to encourage the attendance and retention of children and improve their nutritional

status. These policies helped a lot to increase the literacy rate of India.

9. What are the two types of economic activities? State two characteristics of each.

**Ans:** Communication, trade, banking, transport, health, education, services, tourism, insurance, etc. are included in the tertiary sector and the activities in this sector result in the production of goods and services. These activities are called economic activities. Economic activities have two parts — market activities and non-market activities. Market activities involve remuneration to anyone who performs. These include production of goods or services, including government service. Non-market activities are the production for self-consumption. These can be consumption and processing of primary product and own account production of fixed assets.

### Long Answer Type Questions

10. 'Investment in human capital is of paramount importance for a country and its growth'. Elucidate.

**Ans:** Investment in human capital yields a return just like investment in physical capital. It is clearly visible directly in the form of higher incomes earned because of higher productivity of the more educated or the persons better trained, as well as the higher productivity of healthier people. Not only the educated and healthier people gain through higher incomes, society also gains indirectly because the advantages of a more educated or a healthier population spreads to those also who themselves were not directly educated or given health care. A large population can be turned into a productive asset by investment in human capital.

11. Do you agree that education is the most important component of human resource development? Why?

**Ans:** Education plays an important role across the world in the overall development of any country, so it is considered the most important component of human resource development. Education is both a human right and a fundamental right in India, so it is the responsibility of the government to provide it. Another important thing is that education has influence on human development, economic growth and the fundamental requirement for democracy. Some countries prefer to invest in the weapons of mass destruction however; they should invest education for the overall development of the society. It is required that various programs should be introduced in order to teach the responsible use of resources,

because without proper knowledge the illiterate people will waste a lot of resources.

## Self-Assessment

### Multiple-Choice Questions

1. Which one of the following is a market activity?  
(a) A teacher teaching her children.  
(b) A chef cooking in the hotel.  
(c) An artist painting his room.  
(d) A tailor stitching his son's trouser.

**Ans:** (b) A chef cooking in the hotel.

2. Infant mortality rate is the death of the child under the age of  
(a) 1 year. (b) 3 years.  
(c) 5 years. (d) 6 years.

**Ans:** (a) 1 year.

### Assertion-Reason Type Questions

**For question numbers 3 to 6, two statements are given as Assertion (A) and Reason (R). Read the statements and choose the correct option from (a), (b), (c) and (d) as given below.**

- (a) Both A and R are true and R is the correct explanation of A.  
(b) Both A and R are true but R is not the correct explanation of A.  
(c) A is true but R is false.  
(d) A is false but R is true.

3. **Assertion (A):** Like other resources population also is a resource — a 'human resource'.

**Reason (R):** Investment in human capital yields a return just like investment in physical capital.

**Ans:** (b) There are many natural resources like coal, petroleum, solar energy etc., and population is also considered a resource like other resources. It is true to say that investment in human capital through education, training, medical care yields a return just like investment in physical capital.

4. **Assertion (A):** Human capital is in one way superior to other resources like land and physical capital.

**Reason (R):** Land and capital cannot become useful on its own.

**Ans:** (a) It is true to say that capital is in one way superior to other resources like land and physical capital: human resource can make use of land and capital. But land and capital cannot become useful on its own.

5. **Assertion (A):** The various activities have been classified into three main sectors.

**Reason (R):** The three main sectors are primary, secondary and tertiary.

**Ans:** (a) Primary sector includes agriculture, forestry, animal husbandry, fishing, poultry farming, mining and quarrying. Manufacturing is included in the secondary sector. Trade, transport, communication, banking, education, health, tourism, services, insurance, etc. are included in the tertiary sector.

**6. Assertion (A):** The quality of population depends upon the literacy rate, health and skill formation acquired by the people.

**Reason (R):** Literate and healthy population are an asset.

**Ans:** (a) The quality of population depends upon the literacy rate, health of a person indicated by life expectancy and skill formation acquired by the people of the country. The quality of the population ultimately decides the growth rate of the country.

### Match the Following

7. Match the following items given in Column A with those in Column B. Choose the correct answer from the options given below:

Column A (Years)	Column B (Number of Universities)
A 1998-99	1 238
B 2012-13	2 628
C 1914-15	3 711
D 2016-17	4 795

Codes:

	A	B	C	D
(a)	1	2	3	4
(b)	2	4	1	3
(c)	4	1	3	2
(d)	1	3	2	4

**Ans:** (a)

### Find the Incorrect Option

8. (a) The 12th plan endeavoured to raise the country's Gross Enrolment Ratio (GER) in higher education in the age group of 18 to 23 years to 25.2 per cent by 2017-18 and to reach the target of 30 per cent by 2020-21.
- (b) The 13th plan focuses on distance education, convergence of formal, non-formal, distance and IT education institutions.
- (c) In 2011, literacy rates varied from 94 per cent in Kerala to 62 per cent in Bihar.

- (d) A study showed that unemployment of graduate and post-graduate has increased faster than among matriculates.

**Ans:** (b)

### Correct the Following Statement and Rewrite

9. Infant mortality rate (IMR) has come down from 167 in 1951 to 24 in 2016.

**Ans:** Infant mortality rate (IMR) has come down from 147 in 1951 to 34 in 2016.

### Fill in the Blanks

10. The number of deaths per thousand persons in a year is called death rate.
11. More than required workers are employed on a single piece of work is called disguised unemployment.
12. Seasonal unemployment is most prevalent in rural areas.

### Very Short Answer Type Questions

13. What do you mean by 'people as a resource'?

**Ans:** People as a resource means people are an asset rather than a liability, i.e. the working population of a country.

14. How is education helpful in human capital formation?

**Ans:** Education contributes to the growth of the society. It enhances national income, cultural richness and increases the efficiency of governance.

15. Why was mid-day meal scheme launched/ implemented?

**Ans:** Mid-day meal scheme has been implemented to encourage attendance and retention of children.

### Short Answer Type Questions

16. Describe the role of health in human capital formation.

**Ans:** Health of the population and national output are directly related. That is to say that improvement in the health of the population raises the output of a country. Successive governments have paid heed to this and as a result improvement in the health of the population has been a priority. The National Health Policy also aims to provide accessible healthcare facilities, family welfare programmes and nutritional services, especially to the underprivileged section of the society. As a result, life expectancy at birth has increased to over 68.3 years (2014 data) and infant mortality rate (IMR) has decreased.

17. Write short notes on (a) seasonal unemployment (b) disguised unemployment.

**Ans:** (a) **Seasonal unemployment:** Seasonal unemployment occurs when there is no work



for some months of the year. Agricultural labourers have work in the months when sowing, harvesting, reaping and threshing is done. In other months there is not much work for them.

- (b) **Disguised unemployment:** Disguised unemployment is a unique feature of Indian agriculture. In this case people appear to be employed; more people are engaged in an agricultural activity than required. If the extra workers are removed from the activity, the productivity will not decline. For example, an agricultural activity requires five people but engages eight people. If any three people are removed, the remaining five people can complete the activity within the stipulated time. So, these three people are disguised unemployed.

18. Suggest any three ways to transform population load into an asset.

**Ans:** The country's working population, or human resource, can be either a nation's asset or a liability. People become a liability when a nation has to provide them food, education and healthcare. On the other hand, when the ability of the people to produce goods and services is taken into account, they are considered as assets. This can be done by investing in people through education, training and proper health care facilities. Investing in human resource can give high rates of return in future. Investing on people is the same as investing in land and capital.

19. 'The nature of unemployment differs in rural and urban areas.' Justify the statement.

**Ans:** In India we have unemployment in rural and urban areas. In case of rural areas, there is seasonal and disguised unemployment. Seasonal unemployment happens when people are not able to find jobs during some months of the year. People dependent upon agriculture usually faces such kind of problem. There are certain busy seasons when sowing, harvesting, weeding and threshing is done. Certain months do not provide much work to the people dependent on agriculture. Urban areas have mostly educated unemployment.

### Paragraph Based Questions

20. Read the sources given below and answer the questions that follow:

#### Source A – Economic Activities by Men and Women

The various activities have been classified into three main sectors, i.e. primary, secondary and tertiary. Primary sector includes agriculture,

forestry, animal husbandry, fishing, poultry farming, mining and quarrying. Manufacturing is included in the secondary sector. Trade, transport, communication, banking, education, health, tourism, services, insurance, etc. are included in the tertiary sector.

- (a) Which sector contributes the most in GDP of the country?

#### Source B – Unemployment

In case of India we have unemployment in rural and urban areas. However, the nature of unemployment differs in rural and urban areas. In case of rural areas, there is seasonal and disguised unemployment. Urban areas have mostly educated unemployment.

- (b) Why there is seasonal unemployment in rural areas?

#### Source C – Quality of Population

The quality of population depends upon the literacy rate, health of a person indicated by life expectancy and skill formation acquired by the people of the country. The quality of the population ultimately decides the growth rate of the country. Literate and healthy population are an asset.

- (c) 'Literate and healthy population are an asset.' Evaluate the statement.

- Ans:** (a) Tertiary Sector contributes the most in the GDP of any country because it includes trade, transport, communication, banking, education, health, tourism, services, insurance, etc.
- (b) Seasonal unemployment is very common in rural areas because people who are dependent on agriculture works in the months when sowing, harvesting, reaping and threshing is done. They do not find work during other months of the year.
- (c) We know that literacy and good health plays a very important role in the growth of society. Only a literate and healthy person can increase the efficiency of governance and enhance the national income.

### Case Based Questions

21. Investment in human capital (through education, training, medical care) yields a return just like investment in physical capital. This can be seen directly in the form of higher incomes earned because of higher productivity of the more educated or the better trained persons, as well as the higher productivity of healthier people. Not only do the more educated and the healthier people gain through higher incomes, society also gains in other indirect ways because the advantages of a more educated or a healthier

population also spreads to those who themselves were not directly educated or given health care. In fact, human capital is in one way superior to other resources like land and physical capital: human resource can make use of land and capital. Land and capital cannot become useful on its own. For many decades in India, a large population has been considered a liability rather than an asset. But a large population need not be a burden for the economy. It can be turned into a productive asset by investment in human capital (for example, by spending resources on education and health for all, training of industrial and agricultural workers in the use of modern technology, useful scientific researches and so on).

**21.1** Which of the following is not directly proportional to higher productivity?

- (a) healthier people
- (b) educated people
- (c) better trained people
- (d) wealthier people

**Ans.** (d) wealthier people

**21.2** Why is human capital superior to physical capital?

- (a) human resource can make use of land and capital
- (b) human resource can earn working capital
- (c) human resource can be improved with education and healthcare
- (d) all of these

**Ans.** (a) human resource can make use of land and capital

**21.3** Education, training and healthcare help in .....

- (a) achieving higher productivity.
- (b) making land capital useful on its own.
- (c) turning population burden into human capital.
- (d) both (a) and (c)

**Ans.** (d) both (a) and (c)

**21.4** What has been the problem with Indian population?

- (a) it is not willing to invest in human capital
- (b) it does not believe in the relativity of human capital and higher yields
- (c) it has been considered a burden more than an asset
- (d) it does not work as efficiently as physical capital

**Ans.** (c) it has been considered a burden more than an asset

**22.** Unemployment leads to wastage of manpower resource. People who are an asset for the economy turn into a liability. There is a feeling of hopelessness and despair among the youth.

People do not have enough money to support their family. Inability of educated people who are willing to work to find gainful employment implies a great social waste. Unemployment tends to increase economic overload. The dependence of the unemployed on the working population increases. The quality of life of an individual as well as of society is adversely affected. When a family has to live on a bare subsistence level there is a general decline in its health status and rising withdrawal from the school system. Hence, unemployment has detrimental impact on the overall growth of an economy. Increase in unemployment is an indicator of a depressed economy. It also wastes the resource, which could have been gainfully employed. If people cannot be used as a resource they naturally appear as a liability to the economy. In case of India, statistically, the unemployment rate is low. A large number of people represented with low income and productivity are counted as employed. They appear to work throughout the year but in terms of their potential and income, it is not adequate for them. The work that they are pursuing seems forced upon them. They may, therefore, want other work of their choice. Poor people cannot afford to sit idle. They tend to engage in any activity irrespective of its earning potential. Their earning keeps them on a bare subsistence level.

**22.1** Unemployment leads to .....

- (a) wastage of manpower resources.
- (b) feeling of hopelessness and despair among the youth.
- (c) the asset becoming a liability.
- (d) all of these

**Ans.** (d) all of these

**22.2** What increases economic overload?

- (a) social wastage
- (b) dearth of skilled labour
- (c) exponential rise in working population
- (d) decreasing gap between potential and actual income

**Ans.** (a) social wastage

**22.3** Complete the statement: Increase in unemployment is an indicator of a ..... economy.

- (a) suppressed
- (b) depressed
- (c) impressed
- (d) expressed

**Ans.** (b) depressed

**22.4** What does the dependence of unemployed on employed lead to?

- (a) the quality of life of an individual as well as of society is adversely affected



- (b) the quality of life of an unemployed as well as of employer is adversely affected
- (c) the quality of life of an employed as well as of the government is adversely affected
- (d) the quality of life of an employer as well as of an employee is adversely affected

**Ans.** (a) the quality of life of an individual as well as of society is adversely affected

### Long Answer Type Questions

**23.** Which capital (should be factor of production, not capital) would you consider the best – land, labour, physical capital and human capital? Why?

**Ans:** Labour is the most abundant factor of production. It is the physical and mental effort put in by people during the process of production. Small farmers cultivate their own fields, whereas medium and large farmers use hired labour to work on their fields. Labour is provided by the landless families. For example, in Palampur, farm labourers come from those families who have no land or very small plots of land. They are paid wages which are in cash or in kind (crops). A minimum wage has been set by the government (Rupees 300 per day) but sometimes the farm labourers of Palampur get much less. This is because labour is abundant, so there is heavy competition for work. Therefore, some labourers migrate to the cities in search of work, to supplement their income.

**24.** Human resource is an indispensable factor of production. Justify.

**Ans:** If investments are made on the education and health of a child, he or she can yield a high return in future in the form of higher earnings and greater contribution to the society. Most of the educated parents invest more on the education of their child because they have realised the importance of education. In addition to this, they are also conscious of proper nutrition and hygiene. They accordingly look after their children's needs for education at school and good health. Countries, like Japan, have invested huge amount of funds in human resource. They do not possess any natural resources but these countries are developed. They import the required natural resources. Here an important question comes to our mind that how did they become developed? The answer to this question is that they have invested on people, especially in the field of education and health. These people have made efficient use of other resources, like land and capital. So it is true to say that human resource is an indispensable factor of production.

**25.** Why is the literacy rate lower among women?

**Ans:** Literacy rate is uneven between urban and rural areas and between men and women. Studies have shown that more men are literate as compared to women and that urban population is more literate as compared to rural. There are many reasons for low female literacy in India. Though the government has made elementary education free, still, parents do not want to send their girls to school. In most rural areas, schools are far away from villages and not easily accessible. Also, many schools do not have adequate basic facilities, like drinking water and lavatory. Another reason is the lack of female teachers in schools.

**26.** Read the extract and answer the questions that follow:

The expenditure on education as a percentage of GDP rose from 0.64 per cent in 1951–52 to 3.0 per cent in 2015–16 and has remained stagnant around 3 per cent from past few years. The Budgetary Estimate as stated in the Budget Documents of Union State Governments, Reserve Bank of India, the expenditure on education as a percentage of GDP has declined to 2.7 per cent in 2017–18. The literacy rates have increased from 18 per cent in 1951 to 74 per cent in 2010–11. Literacy is not only a right, it is also needed if the citizens are to perform their duties and enjoy their rights properly. However, a vast difference is noticed across different sections of the population. Literacy among males is nearly 16.6 per cent higher than females and it is about 16.1 per cent higher in urban areas as compared to rural areas. In 2011, literacy rates varied from 94 per cent in Kerala to 62 per cent in Bihar. The primary school system has expanded to over 8.58 lakh in 2013–14.

- (a) Write in brief about the variation in literacy rate since 1951.
- (b) What is the total expenditure on education according to the budgetary estimate?
- (c) Name the state that has the lowest literacy rate in India.

**Ans:** (a) In 1951, the literacy rate was 18 per cent and increased to 74 per cent in 2010-11. Literacy rate remains high among males in comparison to the female population. In 2011, literacy rates varied from 94 per cent in Kerala to 62 per cent in Bihar.

(b) According to the budgetary estimate stated in the budget document of the Union-State governments and Reserve Bank of India, the expenditure on education has declined to 2.7 per cent in 2017–18 whereas it was

3 per cent in the year 2015–16 and remained stagnant for few years.

- (c) According to census 2011, Bihar has the lowest literacy rate that is 62 per cent.

## Let's Compete

### Multiple-Choice Questions

1. Which of the following is a significant step towards providing elementary education to all the children in the age group of 6–14 years?

- (a) Mid-day meal  
(b) Adult Education Programme  
(c) *Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan*  
(d) None of these

**Ans:** (c) *Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan*

2. Quality of population depends upon

- (a) health. (b) education.  
(c) skills. (d) all of these.

**Ans:** (d) all of these.

3. Which one of the following is not an activity of the primary sector?

- (a) Transport (b) Forestry  
(c) Mining (d) Animal Husbandry

**Ans:** (a) Transport

4. Which of the following does not affect the quality of population?

- (a) Literacy (b) Health  
(c) Skills (d) Income

**Ans:** (d) Income

5. Sameer, a farmer, has finished reaping a crop in a field. Now, he has to wait for some months before he starts working in another farm. What will you call this type of unemployment?

- (a) Rural unemployment  
(b) Economic unemployment  
(c) Seasonal unemployment  
(d) Disguised unemployment

**Ans:** (c) Seasonal unemployment

6. Which scheme has been introduced by the government to encourage attendance and improve nutritional status of students in schools?

- (a) Morning meal (b) Mid-day meal  
(c) Afternoon meal (d) Evening meal

**Ans:** (b) Mid-day meal

7. According to 2011 census, female sex ratio of India is

- (a) 921 females per thousand males.  
(b) 943 females per thousand males.

- (c) 940 females per thousand males.  
(d) 928 females per thousand males.

**Ans:** (b) 943 females per thousand males.

8. In which sector will you place agriculture, forestry and dairy?

- (a) Primary sector (b) Tertiary sector  
(c) Secondary sector (d) None of these

**Ans:** (a) Primary sector

9. PHC stands for

- (a) People's Health Club.  
(b) Preventive Health Club.  
(c) Primary Health Centre.  
(d) Physical Health Centre.

**Ans:** (c) Primary Health Centre.

10. Number of deaths for every 1000 people in a year in a particular area is called

- (a) death rate. (b) birth rate.  
(c) decrease rate. (d) population decrease.

**Ans:** (a) death rate.

## Value-based Questions

(Optional)

1. 'If health is lost everything is lost'. Keeping this statement in mind, list the importance of being healthy.

**Ans:**

- Health is a foundation of all happiness in life.
- Health is indeed the real wealth because being healthy is the only state of physical, mental and social well-being.
- Healthy human beings have more energy and confidence in life.
- Good health keeps away from diseases.

2. Women are paid lesser wages than men in most areas of work. Discuss the importance of breaking the glass ceiling and bringing women at par with men economically and socially.

**Ans:** This type of gender discrimination is commonly observed in India, both in the organised as well as unorganised sectors. Though both men and women perform same nature of duties, however, in many industries women are paid less in comparison to men. It is necessary to do away with this practice because it helps in developing the confidence among women. It also helps in making women economically more strong in comparison to men. It is necessary for the economic and social well being of women.

# 3

## Poverty as a Challenge

### Milestone

#### Multiple-Choice Questions

1. Which among the following is the method to estimate the poverty line?

- (a) Investment method      (b) Income method  
(c) Capital method          (d) Human method

**Ans:** (b) Income method

2. Which state has the highest poverty ratio in India?

- (a) Bihar                              (b) Odisha  
(c) Kerala                              (d) Punjab

**Ans:** (a) Bihar

3. SGSY stands for

- (a) Swarnajayanti Gram Swarozgar Yojana.  
(b) Swarozgar Gram Swaranajayanti Yojana.  
(c) Swadeshi Gram Swarozgar Yojana.  
(d) Swarna Gramin Swarozgar Yojana.

**Ans:** (a) Swarnajayanti Gram Swarozgar Yojana.

#### Very Short Answer Type Questions

4. Which important anti-poverty programme was launched in the year 2005?

**Ans:** Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee programme was launched in the year 2005.

5. Who are the most vulnerable to poverty among the social groups?

**Ans:** Social groups, which are most vulnerable to poverty, are Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribe households.

6. What was the objective of Antyodaya Anna Yojana (AAY)?

**Ans:** The objective of this scheme was to provide subsidised food to poor families.

#### Short Answer Type Questions

7. What are the main causes of poverty in India?

**Ans:** The policies of the British Colonial government shattered the Indian economy so much so that it could not be revived until the 1980s. The failure to promote both necessary economic growth and population control measures has been the primary cause of poverty. Illiteracy is also an important cause of poverty in our country. The unequal distribution of land, lack of land resources and failure in the proper implementation of land reform policies have been the major causes of poverty in rural areas. Lack of job security and unemployment opportunities are other causes. Income inequality is one of the main features of increasing poverty. Money has been concentrated in fewer hands, thus rendering a majority of people poor. Despite the implementation of various employment generating programmes, it has failed to provide employment opportunities for all. In order to fulfil social obligations, the poor end up borrowing a lot of money which makes them deeper in debt.

8. Discuss any three measures to reduce poverty in India.

**Ans:** 1. **Rural Employment Generation Programme (REGP):** This was started in 1995 to create self-employment opportunities in rural areas and small towns.  
2. **Swarnajayanti Gram Swarozgar Yojana (SGSY):** It was started in 1999 to bring poor families above the poverty line by organising them into self-help groups and providing them bank credit and government subsidy.  
3. **Pradhan Mantri Gramodaya Yojana (PMGY):** This scheme was started in 2000 to fulfil the basic requirements of the villages and to attain

a sustainable development. The main areas where assistance was provided were primary health, primary education, rural shelter, rural drinking water and rural electrification.

### Long Answer Type Questions

9. What is the strategy of the present government to alleviate poverty?

**Ans:** The target of the government has been to alleviate poverty and this can be done by

- i. **Promoting economic growth:** Economic growth brings reduction in poverty. It creates job opportunities for the people of the country which puts more money in the hands of the people. This money can be used for better food, shelter, education, health care of the family of an individual which works towards reduction of poverty.

- ii. Targeted poverty removal programmes:

**Prime Minister Rozgar Yojana (PMRY):** This scheme was started in 1993 with the aim to create self-employment opportunities in rural areas and small towns, for the rural youth who were educated but unemployed.

**Antyodaya Anna Yojana (AAY):** This yojana was launched in 2000 for the 'poorest of poor' and also for the elderly. The objective of this scheme was to provide subsidised food to poor families.

**Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act (MNREGA), 2005:** The Act aims to provide 100 days of assured wage employment, in a financial year, to every household. The Act also helps in protecting the environment by addressing the cause of drought, deforestation and soil erosion. It also helps in empowering rural women and reducing urban-rural migration.

10. What is meant by poverty? What do you understand by global poverty scenario?

**Ans:** A person is considered poor if her or his income or consumption level falls below a given 'minimum level' necessary to fulfil basic needs. Poverty levels have declined globally. However, it is marked with great regional differences. China and the South-East Asian countries saw a substantial decline due to rapid economic growth and massive investments in human resources. Countries of South Asia have seen a massive decline in poverty. Countries in Sub-Saharan Africa have seen a rise in poverty. In Latin America poverty has declined from 10 per cent in 2005 to 4 per cent in 2015. In some countries such as Russia, poverty has resurfaced. The United Nations proposes to end poverty of all types by 2030.

## Self-Assessment

### Multiple-Choice Questions

1. Which of the following poverty alleviation programmes was launched in 1993?
- (a) Prime Minister Rozgar Yojana
  - (b) Swarnajayanti Gram Swarozgar Yojana
  - (c) National Rural Employment Guarantee Act (NREGA)
  - (d) Sampoorna Grameen Rozgar Yojana

**Ans:** (a) Prime Minister Rozgar Yojana

2. Which organisation carries out surveys for determining the poverty line?

- (a) Planning Commission
- (b) Central Statistical Organisation
- (c) National Sample Survey Organisation
- (d) None of these

**Ans:** (c) National Sample Survey Organisation

3. Which state has succeeded in reducing poverty with the help of land reform measures?

- (a) West Bengal
- (b) Punjab
- (c) Kerala
- (d) Tamil Nadu

**Ans:** (a) West Bengal

### Assertion-Reason Type Questions

**For question numbers 4 to 7, two statements are given as Assertion (A) and Reason (R). Read the statements and choose the correct option from (a), (b), (c) and (d) as given below.**

- (a) Both A and R are true and R is the correct explanation of A.
- (b) Both A and R are true but R is not the correct explanation of A.
- (c) A is true but R is false.
- (d) A is false but R is true.

4. **Assertion (A):** In India we see poverty all around us.

**Reason (R):** In fact, every fourth person in India is poor.

**Ans:** (a) Reason (R) is the correct explanation of Assertion (A) because, roughly 270 million (or 27 crore) people in India live in poverty in 2011-12.

5. **Assertion (A):** A common method used to measure poverty is based on the income or consumption levels.

**Reason (R):** A person is considered poor if his or her income or consumption level falls below a given "minimum level" necessary to fulfill the basic needs.

**Ans:** (a) As we know that a common method to measure poverty level is based on the

income or consumption levels, so a person is considered poor if the income or consumption level falls below a given minimum level.

**6. Assertion (A):** The calorie needs vary depending on age, sex and the type of work that a person does.

**Reason (R):** The accepted average calorie requirement in India is 3000 calories per person per day in rural areas and 2400 calories per person per day in urban areas.

**Ans:** (c) The accepted average calorie requirement in India is 2400 calories per person per day in rural areas and 2100 calories per person per day in urban areas.

**7. Assertion (A):** There is a substantial decline in poverty ratios in India from about 40 per cent in 1993–94 to 37.2 per cent in 2004–05.

**Reason (R):** The proportion of people below poverty line further came down to about 22 per cent in 2011–12.

**Ans:** (d) Assertion (A) is wrong because, there is a substantial decline in poverty ratios in India from about 45 per cent in 1993–94 to 37.2 per cent in 2004–05.

### Match the Following

8. Match the following items given in Column A with those in Column B. Choose the correct answer from the options given below:

Column A (Years)	Column B (Number of poor in millions)
A 1993–94	1 404
B 2004–05	2 407
C 2009–10	3 355
D 2011–12	4 270

Codes:

	A	B	C	D
(a)	1	2	3	4
(b)	2	4	1	3
(c)	4	1	3	2
(d)	1	3	2	4

**Ans:** (a)

### Find the Incorrect Option

9. (a) The proportion of people below poverty line is not same for all social groups and economic categories in India.  
 (b) 24 per cent of casual workers in urban areas are below poverty line.  
 (c) The average for people below poverty line for all groups in India is 22.

- (d) 29 per cent of Scheduled Castes are also poor.

**Ans:** (b)

### Correct the Following Statement and Rewrite

10. Bihar and Odisha continue to be the two poorest states with poverty ratios of 30.7 and 29.6 per cent respectively.

**Ans:** Bihar and Odisha continue to be the two poorest states with poverty ratios of 33.7 and 32.6 per cent respectively.

### Fill in the Blanks

11. MNREGA was launched in the year **2005**.  
 12. World Bank uses a uniform standard for poverty line that is minimum availability of **\$1.90** per person a day.

### Very Short Answer Type Questions

13. What were the targets of Swarnajayanti Gram Swarozgar Yojana (SGSY)?

**Ans:** It was started in 1999 to bring poor families above the poverty line by organising them into self-help groups and providing them bank credit and government subsidy.

14. Which important anti-poverty programme was launched in the year 2000?

**Ans:** Pradhan Mantri Gramodaya Yojana (PMGY) was launched in the year 2000.

15. Which indicators out of illiteracy level, lack of access to health care, inadequate safe drinking water and ample job opportunities are not social indicators of poverty?

**Ans:** Lack of access to health care is not the social indicator of poverty.

### Short Answer Type Questions

16. Why do different countries use different poverty lines?

**Ans:** Poverty line is different for different countries depending on the country's existing level of development and its accepted minimum social norms. In India, for determining the poverty line, the minimum price for subsistence is determined. A minimum level of food requirement, clothing, shelter, fuel and light, educational and medical requirement, etc. are determined to calculate the subsistence price. Based on this, the poverty line is determined. Each country uses an imaginary line that is considered appropriate for its existing level of development and its accepted minimum social norms. For example, a person not having a car in USA may be considered poor. In India, owning of a car is still a matter of luxury.

17. How are China and South-East Asian countries able to control poverty?



**Ans:** Poverty levels have declined globally. However, it is marked with great regional differences. China and the South-East Asian countries saw a substantial decline due to rapid economic growth and massive investments in human resources. Countries of South Asia have seen a massive decline in poverty.

18. 'The proportion of poor people is not the same in every state.' Justify the statement.

**Ans:** It is true to say that, the proportion of poor people is not the same in every state in India. Recent estimates show while the all India Head Count Ratio (HCR) was 21.9 per cent in 2011-12 states like Madhya Pradesh, Assam, Uttar Pradesh, Bihar and Odisha had above all India poverty level. Bihar and Odisha continue to be the two poorest states with poverty ratios of 33.7 and 32.6 per cent respectively. Along with rural poverty, urban poverty is also high in Odisha, Madhya Pradesh, Bihar and Uttar Pradesh. However, there is a decline in poverty in Kerala, Maharashtra, Andhra Pradesh, Tamil Nadu, Gujarat and West Bengal. States like Punjab and Haryana have succeeded in reducing poverty with the help of high agricultural growth rates.

### Paragraph Based Questions

19. Read the sources given below and answer the questions that follow:

#### Source A – Global Poverty Scenario

The proportion of people in different countries living in extreme economic poverty – defined by the World Bank as living on less than \$1.90 per day – has fallen from 36 per cent in 1990 to 10 per cent in 2015. Although there has been a substantial reduction in global poverty, it is marked with great regional differences. Poverty declined substantially in China and Southeast Asian countries as a result of rapid economic growth and massive investments in human resource development.

(a) What is the definition of extreme economic poverty according to the World Bank?

#### Source B – Global Poverty Scenario

Number of poor in China has come down from 88.3 per cent in 1981 to 14.7 per cent in 2008 to 0.7 per cent in 2015. In the countries of South Asia (India, Pakistan, Sri Lanka, Nepal, Bangladesh, Bhutan) the decline has also been rapid 34 per cent in 2005 to 16.2 per cent in 2013. With decline in the percentage of the poor, the number of poor has also declined significantly

from 510.4 million in 2005 to 274.5 million in 2013.

(b) Write a brief note on the change in poverty trends in Asian countries.

#### Source C – Poverty in India

One of the biggest challenges of independent India has been to bring millions of its people out of abject poverty. Mahatama Gandhi always insisted that India would be truly independent only when the poorest of its people become free of human suffering.

(c) What are the main causes of poverty in India? Think and write.

- Ans:** (a) According to the World Bank, the proportion of people across the world living in extreme economic poverty is those who live on less than \$1.90 per day.
- (b) There has been a significant decrease in the number of poor in China which has come down from 88.3 per cent in 1981 to 14.7 per cent in 2008 to 0.7 per cent in 2015. In the countries like India, Pakistan, Sri Lanka, Nepal, Bangladesh, Bhutan the decline has also been rapid 34 per cent in 2005 to 16.2 per cent in 2013.
- (c) Some of the main causes of poverty in India are over-population, illiteracy, unemployment, lack of shelter, etc.

### Case Based Questions

20. At the centre of the discussion on poverty is usually the concept of the "poverty line". A common method used to measure poverty is based on the income or consumption levels. A person is considered poor if his or her income or consumption level falls below a given "minimum level" necessary to fulfil the basic needs. What is necessary to satisfy the basic needs is different at different times and in different countries. Therefore, poverty line may vary with time and place. Each country uses an imaginary line that is considered appropriate for its existing level of development and its accepted minimum social norms. For example, a person not having a car in the United States may be considered poor. In India, owning of a car is still considered a luxury. While determining the poverty line in India, a minimum level of food requirement, clothing, footwear, fuel and light, educational and medical requirement, etc., are determined for subsistence. These physical quantities are multiplied by their prices in rupees. The present formula for food requirement while estimating the poverty line is based on the desired calorie requirement. Food

items, such as cereals, pulses, vegetable, milk, oil, sugar, etc., together provide these needed calories. The calorie needs vary depending on age, sex and the type of work that a person does. The accepted average calorie requirement in India is 2400 calories per person per day in rural areas and 2100 calories per person per day in urban areas. Since people living in rural areas engage themselves in more physical work, calorie requirements in rural areas are considered to be higher than in urban areas. The monetary expenditure per capita needed for buying these calorie requirements in terms of food grains, etc., is revised periodically taking into consideration the rise in prices.

**20.1** What is the main reason for poverty line being different at different times and at different places?

- (a) the population and size of the land differs
- (b) the education and healthcare varies
- (c) the necessities to satisfy the basic needs is different
- (d) the age group composition differs

**Ans.** (c) the necessities to satisfy the basic needs is different

**20.2** Which of the following statements is not true about poverty line?

- (a) it is an imaginary line
- (b) it is calculated on the basis of income or consumption levels
- (c) it is different for different countries in different years
- (d) it determines the maximum amount required by an individual for basic necessities

**Ans.** (d) it determines the maximum amount required by an individual for basic necessities

**20.3** According to the passage how do the calorie needs differ within a country?

- (a) rural people require more calories than urban people
- (b) rural people require less calories than urban people
- (c) rural people require equal calories as urban people
- (d) both (a) and (c)

**Ans.** (a) rural people require more calories than urban people

**20.4** What all is taken into consideration while determining the poverty line in India?

- (a) footwear requirement
- (b) light requirement
- (c) medical requirement

(d) all of these

**Ans.** (d) all of these

**21.** Vulnerability to poverty is a measure, which describes the greater probability of certain communities (say, members of a backward caste) or individuals (such as a widow or a physically handicapped person) of becoming, or remaining, poor in the coming years. Vulnerability is determined by the options available to different communities for finding an alternative living in terms of assets, education, health and job opportunities. Further, it is analysed on the basis of the greater risks these groups face at the time of natural disasters (earthquakes, tsunami), terrorism, etc. Additional analysis is made of their social and economic ability to handle these risks. In fact, vulnerability describes the greater probability of being more adversely affected than other people when bad time comes for everybody, whether a flood or an earthquake or simply a fall in the availability of jobs.

**21.1** According to the passage, what sort of people or communities hold a chance of being counted in the vulnerability to poverty measure?

- (a) widows and physically handicapped
- (b) members of the backward caste
- (c) people with a poor ancestry
- (d) both (a) and (b)

**Ans.** (d) both (a) and (b)

**21.2** Which of the following factors doesn't help in determining vulnerability?

- (a) age and citizenship
- (b) assets and education
- (c) job opportunities and health
- (d) social and financial status

**Ans.** (a) age and citizenship

**21.3** The ..... community is at a higher risk of remaining poor due to natural disasters.

- (a) rich
- (b) young
- (c) vulnerable
- (d) unemployed

**Ans.** (c) vulnerable

**21.4** Better employment opportunities can help reduce the ..... rate.

- (a) vulnerability
- (b) cess
- (c) education
- (d) inequality

**Ans.** (a) vulnerability

## Long Answer Type Questions

22. Write in detail about the inter-state disparities of poverty in India.

**Ans:** The proportion of poor people is not the same in each state. The poverty ratio is less than the national average in 20 states and Union Territories with Odisha and Bihar being the poorest states of India with poverty ratios of 32.6 per cent and 33.7 per cent respectively. Urban poverty is also high in Odisha, Madhya Pradesh, Bihar and Uttar Pradesh. Kerala has the least poverty ratio at about 7.1 per cent. There has been a significant decline in poverty in Kerala, Maharashtra, Andhra Pradesh, Gujarat, Tamil Nadu, West Bengal, Punjab and Haryana. These states have traditionally succeeded in reducing poverty. Kerala has focused on human resource development. In Punjab, high agricultural growth has helped in reducing poverty. West Bengal has succeeded in reducing poverty with the help of land reform measures.

23. Read the extract and answer the questions that follow:

Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act, 2005 aims to provide 100 days of wage employment to every household to ensure livelihood security in rural areas. It also aimed at sustainable development to address the cause of draught, deforestation and soil erosion. One-third of the proposed jobs have been reserved for women. The scheme provided employment to 220 crore person days of employment to 4.78 crore households. The share of SC, ST, Women person days in the scheme are 23 per cent, 17 per cent and 53 per cent respectively. The average wage has increased from 65 in 2006–07 to 132 in 2013–14. Recently, in March 2018, the wage rate for unskilled manual workers has been revised, state wise, the range of wage rate for different states and union territories lies in between ₹ 281 per day (for the workers in Haryana) to ₹ 168 per day (for the workers of Bihar and Jharkhand).

- (a) What is the main aim of MGNREGA?  
(b) Write a brief note on the provisions for the women in MGNREGA.  
(c) What is the revised wage rate of Haryana and Bihar?

**Ans:** (a) The main aim of Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act, 2005 is:

- to provide 100 days of wage employment to every household in rural areas.
- at sustainable development to address the

cause of drought, deforestation and soil erosion.

- (b) In Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act, 2005 one-third of the proposed jobs have been reserved for women. This scheme provided employment to 220 crore person days of employment to 4.78 crore households in which the share of Women person days is 53 per cent. The average wage has increased from 65 in 2006–07 to 132 in 2013–14.  
(c) The revised wage rate for the workers in Haryana is 281 rupees per day and for the workers in Bihar is 168 rupees per day.

## Let's Compete

### Multiple-Choice Questions

1. High agricultural growth has helped the following region reduce poverty.

- (a) Jammu and Kashmir (b) West Bengal  
(c) Punjab (d) Gujarat

**Ans:** (c) Punjab

2. What is the main cause of poverty in India?

- (a) High income inequalities  
(b) Less job opportunities  
(c) High growth in population  
(d) All of these

**Ans:** (d) All of these

3. NSSO stands for

- (a) National Sample Survey Organisation.  
(b) National Survey Sample Organisation.  
(c) National Statistical Survey Organisation.  
(d) National Survey System Organisation.

**Ans:** (a) National Sample Survey Organisation.

4. When was Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act passed?

- (a) 2005 (b) 2004  
(c) 2009 (d) None of these

**Ans:** (a) 2005

5. Which state has focused more on human resource development?

- (a) Gujarat (b) Kerala  
(c) Maharashtra (d) Madhya Pradesh

**Ans:** (b) Kerala

6. The nutritional level of food is expressed in the form of

- (a) daily calories.  
(b) rice consumption per day.  
(c) wheat consumption.  
(d) none of these.



**Ans:** (a) daily calories.

7. REGP stands for

- (a) Rural Employees Generator Programme.
- (b) Regional Employment Generation Programme.
- (c) Rural Employment Generation Programme.
- (d) Rural Employment Generation Provision.

**Ans:** (c) Rural Employment Generation Programme.

8. What is the poverty ratio in the state of Bihar?

- (a) 33.7 per cent
- (b) 32.6 per cent
- (c) 31.8 per cent
- (d) 33.5 per cent

**Ans:** (a) 33.7 per cent

9. Which programme is launched to fulfill the basic requirements of the villages and to attain a sustainable development?

- (a) Swarnajayanti Gram Swarozgar Yojana
- (b) Rural Employment Generation Programme
- (c) Pradhan Mantri Gramodaya Yojana
- (d) Prime Minister Rozgar Yojana

**Ans:** (c) Pradhan Mantri Gramodaya Yojana

10. Which factor is responsible for poverty in India?

- (a) Illiteracy
- (b) Unemployment
- (c) Size of family
- (d) All of these

**Ans:** (d) All of these

## ———— Value-based Questions ———— (Optional)

1. Do we help or spoil beggars by offering money? Think and answer.

**Ans:** In practical terms, we spoil the beggars by offering them money. As they are able to earn money without any labour. It is easy money for them. There are many beggars who earn more than a daily wage labourer without making any effort whereas a labourer is able to earn only around ₹ 250–300 per day after a full day of hard labour. We should never offer money to anyone who comes and ask for money without any labour, and also stop anyone who offers them money.

2. You see children working in a restaurant. What are your thoughts? What do you think should be done for them?

**Ans:** The problem of child labour is very common in India and other developing nations. I feel sorry for the condition of these children working in a restaurant as they are forced to work for long hours without any rest and they are also malnourished as they are not given proper food. If we find any child below the age of 14 years working in a restaurant, then we should lodge a complaint to the competent authorities and ensure the rehabilitation of that child.

# 4

## Food Security in India

### Milestone

#### Multiple-Choice Questions

1. What is the price announced before the sowing season called?
  - (a) Issue Price
  - (b) Market Price
  - (c) Fair Price
  - (d) Minimum Support Price

**Ans:** (d) Minimum Support Price

2. Which one of the following has facilitated a network of NGOs for setting up grain banks in Maharashtra?
  - (a) Amul
  - (b) Mother Dairy
  - (c) Academy of Development Science
  - (d) Central Government

**Ans:** (c) Academy of Development Science

3. Which cooperative provides milk, vegetable and pulses at controlled rates decided by the Delhi Government?
  - (a) Amul
  - (b) Kendriya Bhandar
  - (c) Mother Dairy
  - (d) All of these

**Ans:** (c) Mother Dairy

#### Very Short Answer Type Questions

4. Define seasonal hunger.

**Ans:** Seasonal hunger occurs in rural areas and is related to cycles of food growing and harvesting. In urban areas, seasonal hunger is associated with casual labourers, who have less work during the rainy season.

5. Define chronic hunger.

**Ans:** Poor people suffer from chronic hunger because their low income does not allow them to buy food.

6. In which year the most devastating famine in Bengal occurred?

**Ans:** The most devastating famine in Bengal occurred in the year 1943.

7. Which two states witnessed high growth of food grains?

**Ans:** Uttar Pradesh and Madhya Pradesh witnessed high growth of food grains.

#### Short Answer Type Questions

8. Why is food security essential in India?

**Ans:** In India a large section of people suffers from food insecurity. In rural areas, the landless and small farmers, traditional artisans, providers of traditional services, self-employed workers and destitute including beggars are the most food insecure. In urban areas, people employed in low income professions are prone to food insecurity. Children under the age of five years, people living in the economically backward regions and in areas prone to natural disasters are subjected to food insecurity. Therefore, food security is a must in this country.

9. Why is self-sufficiency in food grains production important?

**Ans:** Since 1947, the Indian government has understood the importance of attaining self-sufficiency in food grains after we experienced an acute shortage of food post partition. It is important to focus on self-sufficiency due to the following reasons:

- to provide for enough food to feed the increasing population.
- to ensure food security even when affected with natural calamities such as droughts, floods, cyclones, etc.
- to reduce dependence on import of food grains.

- to control prices of food grains so that it is affordable to all sections of society.

10. Explain how India is becoming self-sufficient in food grains.

**Ans:** In India, land under cultivation is fixed. Hence, it is not true that food grains output has increased due to an increase in land area under cultivation. Food grains output in India has increased significantly because of the Green Revolution in the late 1960s. At this time, farmers in Punjab, Haryana and western Uttar Pradesh started using modern methods of farming like high yielding varieties of seeds, chemical fertilisers, modern implements, irrigation facilities, insecticides and pesticides. These methods enabled the farmers to increase the yield per hectare. They had enough surplus to sell in the market after meeting their needs.

11. What do you mean by the term 'availability' of food?

**Ans:** Availability of food means enough food should be available to feed the entire population of the country; food means here, food produced in the country, food imported from other countries and food which has been stored from previous years.

### Long Answer Type Questions

12. To remove food insecurity, hunger must be eliminated. Explain this statement.

**Ans:** Hunger is another aspect indicating food insecurity. Providing food security means eliminating hunger, both current and future. Hunger can be chronic and seasonal. Poor people suffer from chronic hunger because their low income does not allow them to buy food. Seasonal hunger occurs in rural areas and is related to cycles of food growing and harvesting. In urban areas, seasonal hunger is associated with casual labourers. These labourers have less work during the rainy season.

13. Write a short note on the current status of the PDS.

**Ans:** In the beginning, when the system was introduced, the coverage was universal, that is, no discrimination was made between the poor and the non-poor. Over the years, there has been a change in the policy. It has been made more efficient and targeted. In 1992, Revamped Public Distribution System (RPDS) was introduced with the target to provide the benefits of PDS to backward areas. In June 1997, the Targeted Public Distribution System (TPDS) was introduced, which targeted the poor in all areas. In 2000, two special schemes were launched. The Antyodaya Anna Yojana (AAY) and Annapurna Scheme (APS) targeted the poorest of the poor and the indigent

senior citizens, respectively. The AAY scheme was launched in December 2000. Under this scheme one crore poorest of the poor families were identified and covered under the TPDS. About 25 kg of food grains were made available to each eligible family at subsidised rates of ₹ 2 per kg for rice and ₹ 3 per kg for wheat. In 2002, the quantity was raised to 35 kg. Till 2004, about 2 crore families had been covered under the scheme.

## Self-Assessment

### Multiple-Choice Questions

1. Who released a special stamp titled 'Wheat Revolution' in July 1968?

- (a) Sardar Vallabhai Patel (b) Indira Gandhi  
(c) Jawahar Lal Nehru (d) Mahatma Gandhi

**Ans:** (b) Indira Gandhi

2. Buffer stock is the stock of food grains procured by the government through

- (a) IDBI. (b) FCI.  
(c) IFCI. (d) FICCI.

**Ans:** (b) FCI.

3. What does FCI stand for?

- (a) Fossil Corporation of India  
(b) Foreign Cooperation of India  
(c) Food Corporation of India  
(d) Food Coming to India

**Ans:** (c) Food Corporation of India

### Assertion-Reason Type Questions

**For question numbers 4 to 7, two statements are given as Assertion (A) and Reason (R). Read the statements and choose the correct option from (a), (b), (c) and (d) as given below.**

- (a) Both A and R are true and R is the correct explanation of A.  
(b) Both A and R are true but R is not the correct explanation of A.  
(c) A is true but R is false.  
(d) A is false but R is true.

4. **Assertion (A):** Food is as essential for living as air is for breathing.

**Reason (R):** Food security means something more than getting two square meals.

**Ans:** (b) Both the Assertion (A) and Reason (R) are true but (R) is not the correct explanation of (A). Various dimensions of food security means, food production within the country, food is within reach of every person, an individual has enough money to buy sufficient, safe and nutritious food to meet one's dietary needs.

5. **Assertion (A):** The most devastating famine that occurred in India was the famine of Bengal in 1939.

**Reason (R):** This famine killed thirty lakh people in the province of Bengal.

**Ans:** (d) Assertion (A) is wrong because, the most devastating famine that occurred in India was the FAMINE OF BENGAL in 1943 which killed thirty lakh people in the province of Bengal.

6. **Assertion (A):** The social composition along with the inability to buy food also plays a role in food insecurity.

**Reason (R):** The SCs, STs and some sections of the OBCs who have either poor land-base or very low land productivity are prone to food insecurity.

**Ans:** (a) Reason (R) is the correct explanation of Assertion (A) because the composition of society plays a role in food insecurity because some sections of SCs, STs and OBCs either have poor land-base or very low land productivity.

7. **Assertion (A):** India has become self-sufficient in food grains during the last 30 years because of a variety of crops grown all over the country.

**Reason (R):** Since the advent of the Green Revolution in the early-1980s, the country has avoided famine even during adverse weather conditions.

**Ans:** (c) Reason (R) is wrong because the Green Revolution took place in India in the early-1970s due to which India has avoided famine even during the adverse weather conditions.

### Match the Following

8. Match the following items given in Column A with those in Column B. Choose the correct answer from the options given below:

Column A (Years)	Column B (Production of Rice in Bengal in Lakh tonnes)
A 1938	1 79
B 1939	2 85
C 1942	3 76
D 1943	4 93

Codes:

A	B	C	D
(a) 1	2	3	4
(b) 2	1	4	3
(c) 4	1	3	2
(d) 1	3	2	4

**Ans:** (b)

### Find the Incorrect Option

9. (a) The farmers are paid a pre-announced price for their crops. This price is called Minimum Support Price (MSP).
- (b) The MSP is declared by the Reserve Bank of India every year before the sowing season to provide incentives to farmers for raising the production of these crops.
- (c) There are about 5.5 lakh ration shops all over the country.
- (d) The introduction of rationing in India dates back to the 1940s against the backdrop of the Bengal famine.

**Ans:** (b)

### Correct the Following Statement and Rewrite

10. Indira Gandhi officially recorded the impressive strides of Green Revolution in agriculture by releasing a special stamp entitled 'Wheat Revolution' in July 1978.

**Ans:** Indira Gandhi officially recorded the impressive strides of Green Revolution in agriculture by releasing a special stamp entitled 'Wheat Revolution' in July 1968.

### Fill in the Blanks

11. India has become self-sufficient in food grains because of **Green Revolution**.
12. Distribution of food grains among poorer strata of society at lower price than market is called as **issue price**.

### Very Short Answer Type Questions

13. In which decade was the rationing system revived in India?

**Ans:** In the 1960s, the rationing system was revived in the wake of acute food shortage just before the Green Revolution.

14. What was the total food grain production in 2015-16?

**Ans:** The total food grain production in 2015-16 was 252.22 million tonnes.

### Short Answer Type Questions

15. What are the essential components of the food security system in India?

**Ans:** The essential components of the food security system in India are (i) buffer stock, and (ii) public distribution system.

16. Why there is a need for self-sufficiency in food grains in India?

**Ans:** There is a need for self-sufficiency in food grains in India to ensure food security even when affected with natural calamities such as droughts, floods, cyclones, etc.

17. What was the 1995 World Food Summit declaration?

**Ans:** The 1995 World Food Summit declared, 'Food security at the individual, household, regional, national and global levels exists when all people, at all times, have physical and economic access to sufficient, safe and nutritious food to meet their dietary needs and food preferences for an active and healthy life'.

18. List the food intervention programmes initiated in the wake of the NSSO report.

**Ans:** The food intervention programmes initiated in the wake of the NSSO report are Public Distribution System for food grains, Integrated Child Development Services (ICDS), launched in 1975 and Food-for-work programme, introduced in 1977-78.

19. 'India is aiming at self-sufficiency in food grains since Independence.' Justify the statement.

**Ans:** The policy makers of India adopted all measures to achieve self-sufficiency in food grains. They advocated in favour of adopting new strategy in agriculture, which resulted in 'Green Revolution', especially in the production of wheat and rice. Use of fertilizers and better irrigation facilities led to the increase in production. The increase in food grains was, however, disproportionate. The highest rate of growth was achieved in Uttar Pradesh and Madhya Pradesh, which were 44.01 and 30.21 million tonnes in 2015-16. The total food grain production was 252.22 Million tonnes in 2015-16 and it has changed to 275.68 million tonnes in 2016-17.

### Paragraph Based Questions

20. Read the sources given below and answer the questions that follow:

#### Source A - What is Buffer stock?

Buffer Stock is the stock of food grains, namely wheat and rice, procured by the government through the Food Corporation of India (FCI). The FCI purchases wheat and rice from the farmers in states where there is surplus production. The farmers are paid a pre-announced price for their crops.

(a) Define Buffer Stock.

#### Source B - What is the Public Distribution System?

The food procured by the FCI is distributed through government regulated ration shops among the poorer section of the society. This is called the Public Distribution System (PDS). Ration shops are now present in most localities, villages, towns and cities. There are about 5.5 lakh ration shops all over the country. Ration shops also,

known as Fair Price Shops, keep stock of food grains, sugar, and kerosene for cooking.

(b) What is the primary aim of ration shops?

#### Source C - Role of Cooperatives in Food Security

The cooperatives are also playing an important role in food security in India especially in the southern and western parts of the country. The cooperative societies set up shops to sell low priced goods to poor people.

(c) Name any one cooperative society that you know.

**Ans:** (a) Buffer stock is a stock which is purchased from the farmers in the states where there is surplus production. This stock is purchased by the government through the Food Corporation of India.

(b) Ration shops are also called the fair price shops. The primary aim of setting up of ration shops is to provide food grains, sugar and kerosene oil for cooking at the subsidised rates to the people living Below Poverty Line (BPL). There are about 5.5 lakh ration shops across India.

(c) Amul is a cooperative in milk and milk products from Gujarat.

### Case Based Questions

21. The poorest section of the society might be food insecure most of the times while persons above the poverty line might also be food insecure when the country faces a national disaster/ calamity like earthquake, drought, flood, tsunami, widespread failure of crops causing famine, etc. Due to a natural calamity, say drought, total production of food-grains decreases. It creates a shortage of food in the affected areas. Due to shortage of food, the prices goes up. At the high prices, some people cannot afford to buy food. If such calamity happens in a very wide spread area or is stretched over a longer time period, it may cause a situation of starvation. A massive starvation might take a turn of famine. A famine is characterised by wide spread deaths due to starvation and epidemics caused by forced use of contaminated water or decaying food and loss of body resistance due to weakening from starvation.

21.1 A natural calamity can even make people ..... food insecure.

- (a) on the poverty line
- (b) above poverty line
- (c) enjoying good health and education
- (d) leading a fulfilled life

**Ans.** (b) above poverty line

21.2 How does a drought affect food-grains?

- (a) decreases the production
- (b) decreases the demand
- (c) increases the supply
- (d) creates abundance of inedible food

**Ans.** (a) decreases the production

21.3 Droughts also threaten ..... of food grains.

- (a) quality
- (b) nutritional value
- (c) affordability
- (d) prices

**Ans.** (c) affordability

21.4 What is a massive starvation called?

- (a) poverty
- (b) disaster
- (c) calamity
- (d) famine

**Ans.** (d) famine

22. Although a large section of people suffer from food and nutrition insecurity in India, the worst affected groups are landless people with little or no land to depend upon, traditional artisans, providers of traditional services, petty self-employed workers and destitute including beggars. In the urban areas, the food insecure families are those whose working members are generally employed in ill-paid occupations and casual labour market. These workers are largely engaged in seasonal activities and are paid very low wages that just ensure bare survival. The social composition along with the inability to buy food also plays a role in food insecurity. The SCs, STs and some sections of the OBCs (lower castes among them) who have either poor land-base or very low land productivity are prone to food insecurity. The people affected by natural disasters, who have to migrate to other areas in search of work, are also among the most food insecure people. A high incidence of malnutrition prevails among women. This is a matter of serious concern as it puts even the unborn baby at the risk of malnutrition. A large proportion of pregnant and nursing mothers and children under the age of 5 years constitute an important segment of the food insecure population.

22.1 The providers of traditional services in India are often considered .....

- (a) weak and uneducated.
- (b) food and nutrition insecure.
- (c) unemployed and poor.
- (d) all of these

**Ans.** (b) food and nutrition insecure.

22.2 How are unborn babies put at the risk of malnutrition?

- (a) through occurrence of natural disasters
- (b) through unavailability of medical care
- (c) through poor sanitation conditions
- (d) through malnourished mothers

**Ans.** (d) through malnourished mothers

22.3 Which are the worst affected groups in India?

- (a) landless people with little or no land to depend upon
- (b) petty self-employed workers
- (c) destitutes including beggars
- (d) all of these

**Ans.** (d) all of these

22.4 Natural disasters often leave ..... food insecure.

- (a) rescuers
- (b) rehabilitation workers
- (c) migrants
- (d) none of these

**Ans.** (c) migrants

### Long Answer Type Questions

23. Outline the measures taken to achieve self-sufficiency in food grains since 1947.

**Ans:** To achieve self-sufficiency in food production a new strategy, Green Revolution, was adopted in agriculture, especially in the production of wheat and rice. In the year 2015–16, the highest growth rate was achieved by Uttar Pradesh and Madhya Pradesh which was 44.01 and 30.12 million tonnes. However, there are still states like Odisha that lag in food production. The total food production was 252.22 million tonnes. Uttar Pradesh and Madhya Pradesh witnessed a record production of wheat in 2015–2016, to the tune of 26.87 million tonnes and 17.69 million tonnes respectively. In the same period, West Bengal and Uttar Pradesh recorded a significant growth in rice production, to the tune of 15.75 and 12.51 million tonnes respectively. One of the main reasons why we have become self-sufficient in food grains over the last 30 years is due to the variety of crops grown all over the country.

24. Describe some of the schemes launched by the Government of India to provide food security to the poor.

**Ans:** Over the years, many schemes have been launched or old ones restructured. At present there are several Poverty Alleviation Programmes in rural areas. Some of them such as PDS, mid-day meals are exclusively food security



programmes. Some of them are employment programmes such as Rural Wage Employment Programme, Employment Guarantee Scheme, etc. which greatly contribute to increase the income of the poor. In 2000, two special schemes were initiated: Antyodaya Anna Yojana (AAY) and the Annapurna Scheme (APS), with special focus on the poorest of the poor and senior citizens, respectively. In 2013, The National Food Security Act came into force. This Act provides for food and nutritional security to people by ensuring access to adequate quantity of quality food at affordable prices, so that the people may lead their lives with dignity. Under this Act, 75 per cent of the rural population and 50 per cent of the urban population is eligible for subsidised food grains under the Targeted Public Distribution System.

25. The Public Distribution System (PDS) is one of the most important initiatives taken by the Government of India towards ensuring food security. Explain this statement.

**Ans:** The basic objective of the Public Distribution System in India is to provide food and other consumer goods to people at cheap and subsidised prices, so that a nutritional standard is maintained and the people are also insulated against rising prices. PDS is a system through which food that is procured by the FCI is distributed amongst the poorer sections of the society through government regulated ration shops. These ration shops are also known as Fair Price Shops. Ration shops are present in most localities, villages, towns and cities. There are about 5.5 lakh ration shops all over the country. These shops store food grains, sugar and kerosene. The four advantages of the Public Distribution System are as follows:

- (i) The PDS has been effective in stabilising prices and making food available to consumers at affordable prices.
- (ii) It procures food from surplus regions and distributes it to deficit areas.
- (iii) Prices have been under revision in favour of poor households.
- (iv) PDS has led to an increase in grain production which has provided income security to farmers.

26. Read the extract and answer the questions that follow:

The introduction of Rationing in India dates back to the 1940s against the backdrop of the Bengal famine. The rationing system was revived in the

wake of an acute food shortage during the 1960s, prior to the Green Revolution. In the wake of the high incidence of poverty levels, as reported by the NSSO in the mid-1970s, three important food intervention programmes were introduced: Public Distribution System (PDS) for food grains (in existence earlier but strengthened thereafter); Integrated Child Development Services (ICDS) (introduced in 1975 on an experimental basis) and Food-for-Work (FFW) (introduced in 1977–78). Over the years, several new programmes have been launched and some have been restructured with the growing experience of administering the programmes. At present, there are several Poverty Alleviation Programmes (PAPs), mostly in rural areas, which have an explicit food component also. While some of the programmes such as PDS, mid-day meals etc. are exclusively food security programmes, most of the PAPs also enhance food security. Employment programmes greatly contribute to food security by increasing the income of the poor. The National Food Security Act, 2013 provides for food and nutritional security life at affordable prices and enables people to live a life with dignity. Under this act, 75 per cent of the rural population and 50 per cent of the urban population have been categorised as eligible households for food security.

- (a) Name the three programmes introduced by the Government of India after submission of report by NSSO in the mid-1970s.
- (b) In which year Food-for-Work (FFW) was introduced in India?
- (c) Write a brief note on National Food Security Act, 2013.

**Ans:** (a) The three programmes introduced by the Government of India were:

(b) The Food-for-Work (FFW) was introduced in India in the year 1977–78.

(c) Food Security means the availability of sufficient food grains to meet the demands of the adequate quantity of food at affordable prices. The primary aim of National Food Security Act, 2013 is to provide for food and nutritional security life at affordable prices and enables people to live a life with dignity. According to the provisions of this act, 75 per cent of the rural population and 50 per cent of the urban population have been categorised as eligible households for food security.

## Let's Compete

### Multiple-Choice Questions

1. The most devastating famine occurred in 1943 in  
(a) Assam. (b) Bengal.  
(c) Bihar. (d) Orissa.

**Ans:** (b) Bengal.

2. Antyodaya Anna Yojana (AAY) and Annapurna Scheme (APS) are linked with  
(a) the public distribution system.  
(b) mid-day meal.  
(c) a special nutrition programme.  
(d) pregnant and nursing mothers.

**Ans:** (a) the public distribution system.

3. Mother Dairy is an important cooperative in  
(a) Gujarat. (b) Punjab.  
(c) Haryana. (d) Delhi.

**Ans:** (d) Delhi.

4. Minimum Support Price (MSP) is announced by the government to provide  
(a) incentives to traders to earn maximum profit from farmers.  
(b) incentives to farmers to increase production.  
(c) incentives to moneylenders to lend maximum to farmers.  
(d) none of these.

**Ans:** (b) incentives to farmers to increase production.

5. Women and children under the age of five are food insecure population due to  
(a) malnutrition. (b) low income.  
(c) illiteracy. (d) no land.

**Ans:** (a) malnutrition.

6. Which of the states have the largest number of food insecure population?  
(a) Bihar, Jharkhand and Gujarat  
(b) Bihar, Jharkhand and Odisha  
(c) Bihar, Madhya Pradesh and Tamil Nadu  
(d) Bihar, Chhattisgarh and Karnataka

**Ans:** (b) Bihar, Jharkhand and Odisha

7. Percentage of seasonal as well as chronic hunger in India over the years has

- (a) increased. (b) decreased.  
(c) remained constant. (d) none of these.

**Ans:** (b) decreased.

8. The concept of 'entitlements' was introduced by  
(a) Pranab Mukherjee. (b) Amartya Sen.  
(c) Manmohan Singh. (d) Sonia Gandhi.

**Ans:** (b) Amartya Sen.

9. Name the scheme which was launched in year 2000, to cover poorest of the poor families with food grains.  
(a) AAY (b) RPDS  
(c) TPDS (d) NFSA

**Ans:** (a) AAY

10. In which state ADS has facilitated a network of NGOs for setting up grain banks?  
(a) Madhya Pradesh (b) Andhra Pradesh  
(c) Maharashtra (d) Punjab

**Ans:** (c) Maharashtra

## Value-based Questions

### (Optional)

1. What role can one play in solving the problem of chronic hunger in the country? Suggest two ways to do so.

**Ans:** In order to solve the problem of chronic hunger in the country these measures are needed to be taken:

- Strong Public Distribution System.
- Need to keep a check on price of essential commodities and black marketing.

2. It is your parent's marriage anniversary party. Your parents have ordered a lot of food for the guests. After the party is over you see that almost half the food is left. What do you suggest to your parents regarding the leftover food?

**Ans:** In order to avoid the wastage of food my parents should:

- distribute the remaining food among the poor people.
- have ordered the food accordingly.
- kept the remaining food for the birds to feed.