

EXERCISES

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

(i) location

(ii) total area of the village

(iii) land use (in hectares):

Cultivated land		Land not available for cultivation (area covering dwellings, roads, ponds, grazing ground)
Irrigated	Unirrigated	26 hectares



(iv) Facilities

Educational
Medical
Market
Electricity supply
Communication
Nearest town

Ans. (i) **Location:** Palampur, Himachal Pradesh

(ii) **Total area of the village:** 226 hectares

(iii) **Land use(in hectares):**

Cultivated land		Land not available for cultivation(area covering dwellings, roads, ponds, grazing ground) 26 hectares
Irrigated	Unirrigated	
200 hectares	Nil	

(iv) Educational	2 primary schools and one high school
Medical	1 primary health centre run by Govt and one private dispensary
Market	Raiganj and Shahpur
Electricity supply	Most of the houses have electric connections, electricity is used for irrigation and in various type of small businesses
Communication	Well connected with neighboring villages and town
Nearest town	Shahpur



CODE-sRNe

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

Ans. Yes, modern farming methods require more inputs which are manufactured in the industry. Modern farming methods include high variety seeds, fertilizers and pesticides, use of machines like tractors, proper irrigation facilities like electric tube wells. All these tools are manufactured in the industry.

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

Ans. The spread of electricity has helped the farmers of Palampur village in the following ways:

- (i) Most of the houses have electric connections.
- (ii) Electricity is used to run tubewells in the fields.
- (iii) Electricity is used in various types of small business.



CODE-XJBF



CODE-7WkV

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

Ans. Yes, it is important to increase the area under cultivation as farming through modern technique requires lot of water. Multiple cropping also requires plenty of water, So more area under irrigation helps in producing more.

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

Ans.	Number of families	Land (hectare)
	150	0
	240	Less than 2
	60	More than 2



CODE-W1sM

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

Ans. Wages for farm labourers in Palampur are less than minimum wages because:

- (i) There is a heavy competition for work among the farm labourers
- (ii) Use of more machines has reduced the employment opportunities for the labourers in Palampur.
- (iii) The farmers are illiterate and unaware of the amount of minimum wages set by the government.
- (iv) Land is owned by the big farmers or landowners who exploit labourers by giving low wages so that they can earn profits.



CODE-ZAmq

7. In your region, talk to two labourers. Choose either farm labourers or labourers working at construction sites. What wages do they get? Are they paid in cash or kind? Do they get work regularly? Are they in debt?

Ans. Two chosen labour are farm labourers:

- (i) They are landless farm labourers who work on daily wages.
- (ii) Though minimum wages for farm labourers set by the government is ₹300 per day, they get only ₹160. There is heavy competition for work among the farm labourers, so they agree to work for low wages.
- (iii) They remain out of work for most parts of the year and have to take loans from the moneylender to fulfill their needs. Due to this lack of permanent employment, they remain poor and are unable to repay the loan and fall into a debt trap.

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

Ans. Ways of increasing production on the same piece of land are:

- (i) **Multiple cropping:** It is the most common way of increasing production on a given piece of land. Under it, more than one crop is grown on the same piece of land during the year. Indian farmers should grow at least two main crops in a year. Example: during rainy season jowar and bajra are grown, between october and december it is followed by the cultivation of potato, fields are sown with wheat in winter season.
- (ii) **Modern farming methods:** Use of HYV seeds, tube wells for irrigation chemical fertilizers and pesticides, machinery like tractors and threshers. The Green Revolution in India is a remarkable example of it.



CODE-uokR

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

Ans. A farmer with 1 hectare of land will be called a **small farmer**. Since the area for cultivation is small, the outcome may also not be high.

- (i) So in order to be able to yield the land in the best possible way, the farmer needs money. This money is borrowed from a moneylender at a high-interest rate.
- (ii) Once the farm is cultivated, the product has to be divided for personal use and for selling in the market.
- (iii) Whatever profit is earned, the farmer has to usually give it away to the moneylender and little sum of money is left for the use of the farmer himself.
- (iv) Along with cultivating his own land he can also take up other non-farming activities like transportation or he can work on the other's farm as labourer.

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

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



CODE-RTT



CODE-JRCs



CODE-uaBp



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

Ans. Savita required money for buying seeds, fertilisers and pesticides, and water for irrigation. She also needed money for repairing her farm instruments. So, she decided to borrow money from Tejpal Singh, a large farmer in her village. Tejpal Singh agreed to give the loan of ₹3000 at an interest rate of 24 per cent for four months. He also got her to agree to work on his field during the harvest season for ₹100 a day.

Savita's condition would have been better if she could get a loan from the bank.

- (i) The bank would have provided her the loan at a low rate of interest.
- (ii) Moreover, Savita could have devoted more time on her own field instead of working for Tejpal Singh as farm labourer.

12. Talk to some old residents in your region and write a short report on the changes in irrigation and changes in production methods during the last 30 years. (Optional)

Ans. Over the last 30 years, irrigation and production methods in the agriculture field changed a lot

Production methods: Traditional production methods are replaced by the modern techniques like earlier the fields were ploughed by ploughs drawn by bullocks but now this is done by tractors which saves time and increases the efficiency. With changes in technology the farmers has started using HYV seeds, chemical fertilizers pesticides and modern machinery which has led increase in production and improve the lives of the farmer.

Irrigation methods: Traditionally farmers were mainly dependent on rainfall for irrigation but now they have started using better methods like tubewells, canals etc. better irrigation methods have also helped farmers in increasing the production.



13. What are the non-farm production activities taking place in your region? Make a short list

Ans. The non-farm production activities taking place in our region are:

- (i) Dairy
- (ii) Transportation
- (iii) General Stores
- (iv) Vegetable and fruit vendors

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

Ans. Things that need to be done to encourage non-farm production activities in villages:

- (i) The government should set up schemes whereby landless labourers and small farmers are able to get cheap loans to start small individual/community businesses.
- (ii) In addition to financial assistance, the government should set up rural workshops to enable the villagers to build on their skill levels.
- (iii) The government should also work towards improving the infrastructure of villages so that the rural parts of the country are well connected to the urban areas.

