



Day 36

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Economy: Agriculture

Following topics of agriculture have been at the forefront of the news headlines, and as UPSC always attempts to test the basics, a basic awareness is required. Questions from this topic are largely asked from static as well as current affairs portions. According to the trend observed, the facts, their contexts, basic background information can be asked by the UPSC from these topics.

Agriculture Input

- **Agriculture Infrastructure Fund**
- **Farm Loan Waiver**
- **Centre Cuts Non-urea Fertiliser Subsidy**
- **ICAR to Set up Farmers' Innovation Fund**
- **Seed Bill**
- **International Seed Treaty**
- **Zero-Budget Natural Farming**
- **MSP, Agrarian Crisis and Reform**

Q. With references to organic farming in India, consider the following statements: (2018)

1. 'The National Programme for Organic Production' (NPOP) is operated under the guidelines and directions of the Union Ministry of Rural Development.
2. 'The Agricultural and Processed Food Products Export Development Authority' (APEDA) functions as the Secretariat for the implementation of NPOP.
3. Sikkim has become India's first fully organic State.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

(a) 1 and 2 only

(b) 2 and 3 only

(c) 3 only

(d) 1, 2 and 3

Q. In India, the use of carbofuran, methyl parathion, phorate and triazophos is viewed with apprehension. These chemicals are used as

(a) pesticides in agriculture

(b) preservatives in processed foods

(c) fruit-ripening agents

(d) moisturising agents in cosmetics

Q. Which one of the following best describes the main objective of 'Seed Village Concept' (2015)

(a) Encouraging the farmers to use their own farm seeds and discouraging them to buy the seeds from others

(b) Involving the farmers for training in quality seed production and thereby to make available quality seeds to others at appropriate time and affordable cost

(c) Earmarking some villages exclusively for the production of certified seeds

(d) Identifying the entrepreneurs in villages and providing them with technology and finance to set up seed companies

Q. In India, which of the following have the highest share in the disbursement of credit to agriculture and allied activities? (2011)

(a) Commercial Banks

(b) Cooperative Banks

(c) Regional Rural Banks

(d) Microfinance Institutions

Q. Consider the following statements: (2015)

1. The Accelerated Irrigation Benefits Programme was launched during 1996-97 to provide loan assistance to poor farmers.
2. The Command Area Development Programme was launched in 1974-75 for the development of water-use efficiency.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

(a) 1 only

(b) 2 only

(c) Both 1 and 2

(d) Neither 1 nor 2

Q. In the context of food and nutritional security of India, enhancing the 'Seed Replacement Rates' of various crops helps in achieving the food production targets of the future. But what is/are the constraint/ constraints in its wider/greater implementation? (2014)

1. There is no National Seeds Policy in place.
2. There is no participation of private sector seed companies in the supply of quality seeds of vegetables and planting materials of horticultural crops.
3. There is a demand-supply gap regarding quality seeds in case of low value and high volume crops.

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

(a) 1 and 2

(b) 3 only

(c) 2 and 3

(d) None

Agriculture Output

- **Production of Saffron and Heeng in India**
- **Direct Seeding of Rice**
- **Locusts**
- **Alternative Market Channel for Farmers**
- **India's Cotton Story**
- **Agrobiodiversity for India**

- **Cropping Patterns and Major Crops of India: Part One**
- **Cropping Patterns and Major Crops of India: Part Two**
- **Horticulture Sector in India**
- **Sustainable Plantations**
- **Multi-cropping**

Q. Consider the following statements: (2018)

1. The quantity of imported edible oils is more than the domestic production of edible oils in the last five years.
2. The Government does not impose any customs duty on all the imported edible oils as a special case.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

(a) 1 only

(b) 2 only

(c) Both 1 and 2

(d) Neither 1 nor 2

Q. Consider the following: (2018)

1. Areca nut
2. Barley
3. Coffee
4. Finger millet
5. Groundnut
6. Sesamum
7. Turmeric

The Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs has announced the Minimum Support Price for which of the above?

(a) 1, 2, 3 and 7 only

(b) 2, 4, 5 and 6 only

(c) 1, 3, 4, 5 and 6 only

(d) 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 and 7

Q. The Fair and Remunerative Price (FRP) of sugarcane is approved by the (2015)

(a) Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs

(b) Commission for Agricultural Costs and Prices

(c) Directorate of Marketing and Inspection, Ministry of Agriculture

(d) Agricultural Produce Market Committee

Agriculture Marketing

- **Agricultural Marketing Reforms**
- **The Protection of Plant Varieties and Farmers' Rights Act**
- **PepsiCo Sues Potato Farmers**

Q. Consider the following statements: (2017)

1. The Standard Mark of Bureau of Indian Standards (BIS) is mandatory for automotive tyres and tubes.
2. AGMARK is a quality Certification Mark issued by the Food and Agriculture Organisation (FAO).

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

(a) 1 only

(b) 2 only

(c) Both 1 and 2

(d) Neither 1 nor 2

Q. What is/are the advantage/advantages of implementing the 'National Agriculture Market' scheme? (2017)

1. It is a pan-India electronic trading portal for agricultural commodities.
2. It provides the farmers access to nationwide market, with prices commensurate with the quality of their produce.

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

(a) 1 only

(b) 2 only

(c) Both 1 and 2

(d) Neither 1 nor 2

Q. With reference to pre-packaged items in India, it is mandatory to the manufacturer to put which of the following information on the main label, as per the Food Safety and Standards (Packaging and Labelling) Regulations, 2011? (2016)

1. List of ingredients including additives
2. Nutrition information
3. Recommendations, if any, made by the medical profession about the possibility of any allergic reactions
4. Vegetarian/non-vegetarian

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

(a) 1, 2 and 3

(b) 2, 3 and 4

(c) 1, 2 and 4

(d) 1 and 4 only

Q. In India, markets in agricultural products are regulated under the (2015)

(a) Essential Commodities Act, 1955

(b) Agricultural Produce Market Committee Act enacted by States

(c) Agricultural Produce (Grading and Marking) Act, 1937

(d) Food Products Order, 1956 and Meat and Food Products Order, 1973

Food Processing Industries & Allied Areas

- **India's Food Processing Industry**
- **Animal Rearing**
- **Mobile Application to Aid Farmers**
- **Food Processing in India**
- **Blue Revolution that Will be**

Q. With what purpose is the Government of India promoting the concept of “Mega Food Parks”? (2011)

1. To provide good infrastructure facilities for the food processing industry.
2. To increase the processing of perishable items and reduce wastage.
3. To provide emerging and eco-friendly food processing technologies to entrepreneurs.

Select the correct answer using the codes given below:

- (a) 1 only
- (b) 1 and 2 only**
- (c) 2 and 3 only
- (d) 1, 2 and 3

Government Schemes

- **Revamping of Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bima Yojana**
- **PM-KISAN**
- **Measures for Farmers' Welfare**
- **Agriculture Reforms**
- **Soil Health Card Scheme**
- **Operation Greens**
- **Technology and Doubling Farmers' Income**
- **Rashtriya Gokul Mission**
- **Green Revolution Krishonnati Yojana**
- **National Agriculture Market (NAM)**
- **Pradhan Mantri Krishi Sinchayee Yojana**
- **Kisan Credit Card (KCC) Saturation Campaign**

Q. With reference to 'Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bima Yojana', consider the following statements: (2016)

1. Under this scheme, farmers will have to pay a uniform premium of two percent for any crop they cultivate in any season of the year.
2. This scheme covers post-harvest losses arising out of cyclones and unseasonal rains.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- (a) 1 only
- (b) 2 only**
- (c) Both 1 and 2
- (d) Neither 1 nor 2