

Social Science - Class: 6

Unit 3 – Kerala: The Land, Rain and the People

Let's assess

1. Do the diversities in Kerala's physiography, climate and soils types influences agricultural diversity? Explain with examples.

Ans: The hills, including the eastern part of Kerala, receive heavy rainfall, snow and cold. The region experiences temperature, rainfall and soil conditions for the growth of cardamom and tea crops. Temperatures below 30 degrees Celsius, abundant rainfall, irrigated soils and forest soils found in the eastern parts of the state are essential for the growth of these crops.

Situated between the coastal and hilly areas, vegetables, tubers, cashews, lentils and bananas are widely grown. The presence of laterite soils and loamy soils is the main reason for inter cropping.

The coastline is not very high above sea level. The lowland loam soil is suitable for paddy cultivation and the saline loam soil in the coastal areas is suitable for coconut cultivation. This soil is found in this part of Kerala which is close to the sea. This soil has low fertility and water storage capacity.

2. Each one has to work for self-sufficiency in food. As a student what measures can you adopt for this?

Ans: You should try to produce home-grown vegetables at home. Those who have limited space can cultivate terraces. It can also be grown in bags filled with soil, sand and manure.

Each student should start farming in their own homes. Agricultural clubs should be formed in all schools, with the help of Krishi Bhavans and farming should be started.

More questions and answers

3. What are the benefits of growing the necessary vegetables at home?

Ans: Each family can become self-sufficient by growing vegetables at home. Can reduce the cost of living. Excessive use of fertilizers and pesticides can lead to diseases.

4. Are there any paddy fields in your village that used to exist? What is the reason for the disappearance of paddy fields?

Ans: No. The main reason for the extinction of paddy fields is the unprofitable condition of paddy cultivation.

Other reasons for the decline in paddy fields are frequent diseases affecting paddy, labor shortages, overcrowding of paddy fields for other crops and construction activities, and shifting of farmers to other profitable crops.

6. What is Group Farming? What are its features?

Ans: Instead of cultivating individually on their own small farmland, group farming is the practice of cultivating in a modern way with a group of farmers cultivating adjacent suitable farmland.

Characteristics of group farming

- Prepares agricultural land suitable for cultivation by combining plots of land.
- Farmers collectively provide irrigation facilities.
- Collective cost sharing.
- Cultivation is done with the help of machinery.
- Ensures service of various government departments.
- Provides modern farming methods, scientific fertilizers and pesticides.
- Harvesting is done collectively.
- Makes procurement, collection and distribution profitable.
- Ensures maximum price for products.
- Farmers get more profit and confidence.

7. Tea cultivation is in which district in Kerala? Why?

Ans: Tea cultivation is concentrated in Wayanad and Idukki districts. Tea cultivation requires good fertile loamy soil and at least 110 cm of rainfall per year. Drought lasting more than three months significantly affects the health and growth of the tea plant.

8. What are the changes occurred in the utilization of agricultural land in Kerala? How does this change affect our day today life?

Ans: Today, the agricultural sector of Kerala is facing many challenges. In our state, the production of paddy was 7.5 lakh ton in 1961 and by 2011 it had come down to 2.08 ton. Coconut ranks first in terms of area under agricultural crops. Rubber is second and paddy is third.

This has eroded Kerala's food self - sufficiency and led to food imports. Earlier paddy cultivation was widespread in Kerala. Coconut, cumin, flour, plantain, gram, sorghum, banana, ginger, turmeric, pulses and various vegetables were also widely grown here.

9. Separation from the agricultural sector has adversely affected the lifestyle and health of the Malayalees. Validate.

Ans: Our older generation worked in the fields and fields. With the advent of new employment sectors, the interest of the new generation in agriculture has waned. The Malayalees slowly began to withdraw from the agricultural sector which required more physical activity. This has led to many changes in lifestyle and health care. This setback is one of the reasons for the spread of new generation diseases such as high blood pressure, heart disease and diabetes among the Kerala people.

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