



Social Studies

Class 9th (Economics)

Chapter 1: The Story of Village Palampur



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Exercise

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

a. Location:

b. Total area of the village:

c. Land use (in hectares):

Ans:

(a) Location Area: Palampur is well connected to the neighboring villages and towns. There is a village Raiganj at a distance of three kilometers from Palampur. A road connects the village to Raiganj and beyond to Shahpur, the nearest small town.

(b) Total area of the village : 276 hectares

(c) Land use (in hectares)

- Irrigated Land: 200 Hectares
- Unirrigated Land: 50 Hectares
- Land that is not available for agriculture: 26 Hectares
- (areas of dwelling places, roads, ponds, pastures, etc.)

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

Ans: Yes, agree with the statement that the tools required for modern methods of farming are manufactured in industries. Modern farming requires HYV seeds, irrigation, chemical fertilizers, pesticides. Machines like tractor and thresher are also required to be used. All these will be manufactured in industries only.

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

Ans: The method of irrigation changed with the spread of electricity in Palampur. Earlier, farmers used to irrigate small fields by drawing water from wells with rahats. People saw that electric tube wells could irrigate more area more effectively. Initially some tube wells were installed by the government. But, soon the farmers started installing their own private tube wells. As a result, by the mid-1970s the entire cultivated area of 200 hectares was under irrigation.

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

Ans: It is not certain that the rains will come in India. Therefore, depending on the rains, sowing of crops is reduced. Increase in irrigated area leads to increase in production.

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

Ans:

landless family	150 (Dalit)
Households with less than 2 hectares of land	240 families
Households with more than 2 hectares of land	60 families
Total	450 families

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

Ans: There is competition among agricultural laborers for work in Palampur village. That's why people get ready to work even for low wages.

Que 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: I talked to two laborers of my area. One of them works in the fields and the other works as a laborer in manufacturing. Farm workers get Rs 150 to 200, while manufacturing workers get Rs 250 to 300. They get cash money. They do not get regular work. They are in debt.

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

Ans: Following are the ways to increase the production on the same land :-

1. Production can be increased by multiple cropping system.
2. Effective irrigation system.
3. by HYV Seeds
4. By using fertilizers, chemical fertilizers, pesticides.

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

Answer: Farmers owning one hectare of land are able to produce very little. He cannot manage to eat both his meals. That's why after working in his fields, he has to work in the fields of a big farmer for Rs.100.

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

Ans: Large and medium farmers sell most of the farm produce. A part of the earnings is kept aside for arranging capital for the next season. In this way, they arrange capital for their farming from their own savings. Some farmers also use the savings to buy animals, trucks, etc. or to open a shop. As we shall see, all these are called capital for non-agricultural purposes. On the other hand, small farmers borrow money from big farmers or traders at high rate of interest to manage capital. One has to face difficulties in repaying this loan.

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

Ans: Savita got a loan from Tejpal at 24 per cent interest for 4 months. Had Savita taken a loan from the bank, she would have got the loan at a very low rate of interest.

Que 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: After talking to the old residents of our area, it has come to know that 30 years ago irrigation was done through earth. The fields were plowed with the help of oxen. He told that now irrigation is being done through tube wells. All the crops are being produced by machines.

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

Ans: Small scale industries, dairy, shopkeeping, transport, tailoring, carpentry etc. non-agricultural production works are being done in our area.

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

Ans: People should be trained to start more and more non-agriculture work in the villages. Governments should make available easy loans. Self-help organizations should be established. Small scale industries should be encouraged.