

CSM—8/23
PART—II/PAPER—VI
AGRICULTURE
PAPER—I

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Time : 3 Hours

Full Marks : 250

*The question paper contains **18 (Eighteen)** questions
in **GROUP—A (12)** and **GROUP—B (06)** together.*

GROUP—A

*Candidates to attempt **10 (ten)** questions within word limit of **250**.
Each question carries **15** marks.*

1. Define multiple cropping, relay cropping, intercropping and multi-storey cropping. How do these practices contribute to sustainable food production?
2. Examine the cultivation techniques, pest and disease management strategies for major fibre crops (cotton and jute) in India.
3. Define organic farming. Discuss its principles, practices and significance in promoting sustainable agriculture in India.
4. Compare and contrast drip irrigation and sprinkler irrigation systems. Discuss their advantages, limitations and suitability for different crops and regions.
5. Describe the causes and effects of waterlogging in agricultural fields. What are the different drainage techniques used to manage waterlogged soils?
6. Discuss the quality parameters of irrigation water. How does poor-quality irrigation water affect soil health and crop productivity?
7. Describe the cultural, biological and chemical methods of weed control. How can integrated weed management improve crop production?

8. Explain the concept of extension forestry. What are its objectives and how does it help in increasing forest cover in non-traditional areas?
9. Compare and contrast social forestry and agroforestry in terms of objectives, benefits and implementation challenges.
10. Explain the biological properties of soil and their significance in maintaining soil health. How do microorganisms contribute to soil fertility and nutrient cycling?
11. Discuss the role of organic matter in soil fertility and nutrient availability. How does the addition of organic inputs improve soil health?
12. Evaluate the importance of balanced fertilization in crop production. How does improper fertilizer use impact soil health and environmental sustainability?

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GROUP—B

*Candidates to attempt **05 (five)** questions within word limit of **300**.*

*Each question carries **20** marks.*

13. How does environmental change influence cropping patterns? Discuss with examples how cropping patterns serve as indicators of environmental changes.
14. Examine the effects of environmental pollution on crops, animals and human health. Suggest possible mitigation strategies to reduce these hazards.
15. What are the essential components of farm planning and budgeting? Discuss their significance in ensuring farm profitability.
16. Explain the role of agricultural marketing in determining the pricing of inputs and outputs. How do price fluctuations impact farmers and what strategies can be used to mitigate these risks?

17. What are Agricultural Export Zones (AEZs) and how do they benefit farmers? Discuss the role of the World Trade Organization (WTO), the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT) and Intellectual Property Rights (IPR) in relation to agriculture.
18. What is the Institution Village Linkage Programme (IVLP) and how does it facilitate technology transfer and rural development?

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SPACE FOR ROUGH WORK

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