



Phase 02 ESI & ARD Objective Questions - 2024

2 Markers

I.1-3) Read the following passage and answer the questions that follow –

X is an integrated approach to land use management that combines the cultivation of trees and shrubs with crops and/or livestock. It leverages the synergistic interactions between these components to enhance productivity, biodiversity, and sustainability. Systems under X are classified into three main types: agrisilviculture, which combines crops and trees; silvopastoral systems, which integrate trees with livestock grazing; and agrosilvopastoral systems, which incorporate crops, livestock, and trees.

The benefits of X are manifold. It helps in improving soil fertility through nitrogen fixation, nutrient cycling, and organic matter addition. Tree roots reduce soil erosion and enhance water retention capacity. Additionally, X plays a significant role in carbon sequestration, making it a vital tool for climate change mitigation. The diversity of species in agroforestry systems promotes ecological resilience and provides farmers with diversified sources of income, such as timber, fruits, fodder, and non-timber forest products (NTFPs).

Despite its advantages, X faces challenges, including land tenure issues, lack of technical knowledge among farmers, and competition between trees and crops for resources like light, water, and nutrients. Policies supporting X are critical to overcoming these challenges.

Q.1)

Which type of system primarily includes the cultivation of fruit crops alongside agricultural crops?

- [a] Silvopastoral system
- [b] Agrisilviculture system
- [c] Agrosilvopastoral system
- [d] Social forestry

[e] Linear agroforestry

Q.2)

What are the essential qualities required in tree species for establishing high forests?

- [a] Rapid growth and deep rooting
- [b] High growth and low allelopathy
- [c] Low growth and high allelopathy
- [d] High timber yield and nitrogen fixation
- [e] Low growth and Low Allelopathy

Q.3)

What is the primary environmental benefit of X in the context of climate change?

- [a] Reducing water consumption
- [b] Increasing soil salinity
- [c] Carbon sequestration
- [d] Enhancing chemical fertilizer use
- [e] Reducing biodiversity

I.4-6) Read the following passage and answer the questions that follow –

India's agricultural practices are shaped by its diverse climatic conditions, leading to three distinct cropping seasons. The first cropping season coincides with the onset of the southwest monsoon, typically beginning in June. During this time, crops that require significant water and thrive in warm, humid conditions are sown. They mature and are harvested by September or October. These crops rely heavily on monsoon rainfall for their growth and include staples that are central to the Indian diet.

The second season starts after the monsoon has receded, around October–November, and extends through March–April. This period experiences cooler and dry weather, making it ideal for crops that require minimal water and flourish under such conditions. Irrigation plays a critical role in supporting these crops, as natural rainfall during this time is sparse. The season supports several staple and cash crops that are critical to both subsistence farming and the economy.

The third season falls between the two main growing periods, starting from March and extending to June. This short season is often dominated by crops that have a brief life cycle and can be grown with limited water. Irrigation is essential for this period as

natural precipitation is minimal, and the temperatures are high. Farmers often utilize this season to grow fast-growing crops, maximizing land use between the primary seasons.

Q.4)

Which of the following accurately describes the characteristics of crops grown during the second cropping season in India?

- [a] They are heavily dependent on monsoon rains and require warm, humid conditions.
- [b] They are grown in cooler, dry conditions, relying primarily on irrigation or residual soil moisture.
- [c] They have a short life cycle and are typically sown and harvested between March and June.
- [d] They require minimal water and are sown immediately before the onset of the monsoon.
- [e] They thrive in high temperatures and are resistant to drought conditions.

Q.5)

A farmer from a region with high monsoon dependency decides to cultivate a crop that thrives in warm and humid conditions, requiring substantial rainfall for proper growth. Which crop would be the most appropriate choice for this season?

- [a] Wheat
- [b] Rice
- [c] Mustard
- [d] Chickpea
- [e] Barley

Q.6)

Crops grown in the third season of the year are generally characterized by what?

- [a] Long maturation periods
- [b] Complete reliance on monsoon rainfall
- [c] Short life cycles and irrigation dependence
- [d] Sowing before the monsoon begins
- [e] Harvesting in October–November

I.7-8) Read the following passage and answer the questions that follow –

Animal husbandry is a vital component of agriculture that involves the breeding, rearing, and management of animals to meet various human needs such as food, fiber, labor, and other products. This practice has been integral to human civilization, offering a sustainable source of livelihood and nutrition, especially in rural and agrarian societies.

Animal husbandry encompasses a range of activities, including the care and management of livestock such as cattle, buffaloes, sheep, goats, poultry, and pigs. These animals provide essential products like milk, meat, eggs, wool, leather, and manure. For example, dairy farming focuses on rearing cows and buffaloes for milk production, while poultry farming involves the management of chickens, ducks, and other birds for meat and eggs.

Effective animal husbandry practices require a thorough understanding of animal health, nutrition, breeding, and housing. A balanced diet rich in essential nutrients is crucial for maintaining the productivity and health of livestock. Additionally, vaccination programs are vital to prevent diseases such as foot-and-mouth disease in cattle or avian influenza in poultry. Proper shelter with adequate ventilation, hygiene, and space is equally important for ensuring the well-being of the animals.

Breeding is a critical aspect of animal husbandry, aimed at improving the genetic quality of livestock. Selective breeding techniques, such as artificial insemination and cross-breeding, help in enhancing desirable traits like milk yield, growth rate, and disease resistance. Moreover, advanced technologies such as embryo transfer and cloning are being adopted in modern animal husbandry to improve productivity.

Animal husbandry also plays a significant role in sustainable agriculture. Manure from livestock is an excellent organic fertilizer, contributing to soil fertility and reducing dependence on chemical fertilizers. Similarly, integrating livestock with crop farming ensures resource efficiency, as crop residues can serve as feed for animals, while livestock by-products enrich the soil.

In addition to economic benefits, animal husbandry has a profound social and cultural significance in many communities. It provides employment opportunities, empowers women through backyard poultry and dairy activities, and contributes to food security and rural development. By adopting modern techniques and ensuring ethical practices, animal husbandry can continue to be a cornerstone of agricultural sustainability and rural prosperity.

Q.7)

Based on the latest available data for the year 2022-23, what is the average annual egg consumption per person in India?

- [a] 75 eggs
- [b] 92 eggs
- [c] 101 eggs
- [d] 120 eggs
- [e] 150 eggs

Q.8)

According to the latest agricultural reports, what proportion of the total meat production in India is attributed to poultry farming?

- [a] 39.5%
- [b] 42.3%
- [c] 51.14%
- [d] 58.7%
- [e] 63.2%

Q.9)

During the 69th meeting of NABARD in 1993, a financial entity was established with an initial corpus of ₹10 crores. Which of the following entities was created as a result of this meeting?

- [a] Rural Infrastructure Development Fund
- [b] Agricultural Credit Fund
- [c] Micro Finance Development Fund
- [d] Cooperative Development Fund
- [e] National Livelihood Fund

I.10) Read the following passage and answer the question that follow –

In a rural district of Uttar Pradesh, a local agricultural extension program was launched in 2019 to help farmers transition from traditional farming practices to more sustainable and modern methods. The program, called the "Sustainable Agricultural Practices Initiative" (SAPI), aimed to provide hands-on training, modern agricultural tools, and access to information on new crop varieties and pest management techniques. Extension workers were assigned to specific villages and conducted regular workshops, demonstrations, and field visits to educate farmers.

Initially, many farmers were skeptical about the new techniques, preferring the tried-and-tested methods they had used for generations. However, after several seasons of implementation, there were noticeable improvements in crop yields, water usage efficiency, and soil health. For example, farmers who adopted the recommended integrated pest management (IPM) techniques saw a 25% reduction in pesticide use, leading to cost savings and healthier crops. Additionally, those who switched to drought-resistant crop varieties experienced better productivity during dry spells.

By the end of the second year, the program had reached over 2,000 farmers in the region, and the success of the initiative was evident not only in the increased yields but also in the positive impact on the local economy. Farmers who had adopted the new practices were able to sell their surplus produce at higher market prices due to better quality and higher demand. Despite this success, a few farmers continued to resist the change, citing concerns over the initial investment in new tools and seeds.

The program's success was attributed to the continuous support from extension workers, collaboration with local agricultural institutions, and the use of modern communication tools such as mobile apps for sharing timely information and updates. The program is now being considered for expansion to neighboring districts.

Q.10)

Based on the case study, which of the following factors contributed most significantly to the adoption of new agricultural practices by farmers in the region?

- [a] Financial incentives provided for adopting new techniques
- [b] Continuous support and follow-up from extension workers
- [c] Mandatory government policies on crop production
- [d] High government subsidies for modern agricultural tools
- [e] Government-imposed restrictions on pesticide use

I.11-13) Read the following passage and answer the questions that follow –

The Scheme X is a government initiative aimed at uplifting tribal communities in India by addressing their unique socio-economic challenges. Launched under the Ministry of Tribal Affairs, the program focuses on improving the quality of life in tribal-dominated areas through holistic and sustainable development.

The Scheme X emphasizes leveraging modern technology and traditional knowledge to create self-reliant and vibrant tribal villages. The program aligns with the government's broader vision of "Sabka Saath, Sabka Vikas, Sabka Vishwas, Sabka Prayas," ensuring that tribal communities are not left behind in the nation's growth journey.

It seeks to promote tribal entrepreneurship, skill development, and digital literacy. It also seeks to preserve and promote tribal art, culture, and crafts, thereby creating new economic opportunities. Special focus is given to empowering tribal women through Self-Help Groups (SHGs) and capacity-building initiatives.

To achieve these goals, Scheme X works in convergence with existing schemes such as the Van Dhan Yojana and Pradhan Mantri Adi Adarsh Gram Yojana. By creating model tribal villages, the program aims to inspire nationwide replication of best practices for tribal welfare.

The initiative not only addresses immediate needs but also envisions long-term social and economic transformation, fostering inclusivity and equity in India's development narrative. By bridging developmental gaps and enhancing the socio-economic status of tribal communities, Scheme X is a significant step towards empowering one of India's most marginalized groups.

Q.11)

Which one of the following are the goals of the above-mentioned scheme X mentioned in the paragraph?

- (1) Developing Enabling Infrastructure***
- (2) Promotion of Economic Empowerment***
- (3) Universalization of Access to Good Education***
- (4) Healthy lives and Dignified Ageing***

- [a] 1 and 2
- [b] 2, 3 and 4
- [c] 1, 2, 3 and 4
- [d] 1, 2 and 3
- [e] 3 and 4

Q.12)

The above scheme X mentioned in the paragraph has conceived some innovative initiatives to promote livelihood and generate income amongst tribals and forest dwelling communities. Which of the following initiatives are part of this scheme?

- (1) Tourism***
- (2) FRA Patta***
- (3) Improve infrastructure of Ashram schools/hostels/tribal schools/Govt residential schools***

- [a] 1 Only
- [b] 2 Only
- [c] 1 and 3 Only
- [d] 3 Only
- [e] 1, 2 and 3

Q.13)

The scheme X envisions saturation of critical gaps in social infrastructure, health, education, livelihood, through different schemes of Govt of India by convergence and outreach and ensure holistic and sustainable development of tribal areas and communities based on learnings and success of the Scheme Y. Which of the following statements are correct with respect to Scheme Y launched for the socio-economic welfare of PVTGs?

- (1) It was launched in 2023***
- (2) It targets 75 tribe located in 18 States and 1 Union Territory***
- (3) It was inspired from Tribal Sub-Plan (TSP)***

- [a] 1 Only
- [b] 2 Only
- [c] 1 and 3 Only
- [d] 3 Only
- [e] 1, 2 and 3

I.14-16) Read the following passage and answer the questions that follow –

The Periodic Labour Force Survey (PLFS) Annual Report for July 2023-June 2024 highlights key labor market trends, providing insights into employment, unemployment, and workforce participation across India. This report serves as a vital tool for policymakers, reflecting the dynamics of the labor force in urban and rural areas. Notably, the report underlines improvements in the labor force participation rate (LFPR) and a decline in the unemployment rate, indicating a recovering economy post-pandemic. However, challenges like underemployment and the quality of jobs persist, particularly in rural areas, underscoring the need for robust employment-generating schemes.

The Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act (MGNREGA) scheme remains a cornerstone in addressing rural unemployment, especially among marginalized communities. Providing up to 100 days of guaranteed wage employment annually to rural households, it acts as a social safety net while creating durable assets.

In light of the PLFS findings, MGNREGA's role is critical in reducing rural distress and supporting the livelihoods of millions. The scheme complements labor market dynamics by absorbing surplus rural labor during agricultural off-seasons.

Q.14)

As per the report, the overall Labour Force Participation Rate (LFPR) in usual status (ps+ss) for persons of aged 15 years and above has _____, overall Worker Population Ratio (WPR) has _____, while the Unemployment Rate (UR) has _____ in Rural and Urban areas. Fill the gaps

- [a] Increased, Remained Same, Decreased
- [b] Decreased, Increased, Increased
- [c] Remained Same, Decreased, Increased
- [d] Increased, Increased, Remained Same
- [e] Increased, Increased, Decreased

Q.15)

Which state has the lowest unemployment rate while also having high utilisation of MGNREGA Fund, accounting for nearly 15% of all MGNREGS financing despite having less than 1% of the country's poor population?

- [a] Maharashtra
- [b] Tamil Nadu
- [c] Karnataka
- [d] Uttar Pradesh
- [e] Bihar

Q.16)

The objective of PLFS is primarily to estimate employment and unemployment indicators in _____ both rural and urban areas annually. Fill the gaps

- [a] Current Weekly Status
- [b] Usual Status
- [c] Fortnightly Status
- [d] A and B
- [e] B and C

I.17-19) Read the following passage and answer the questions that follow –

The North Eastern Region (NER) of India holds immense potential for economic growth and industrialization. To harness this potential, Scheme X has been introduced, focusing on transforming the region into a hub of industrial activity. This initiative aims to address the region's unique challenges, such as geographical isolation, lack of infrastructure, and limited access to markets.

Scheme X provides a comprehensive framework to establish Special Economic Zones (SEZs) tailored to the needs of the NER. These SEZs are designed to attract investments by offering fiscal incentives, tax benefits, and ease of doing business. Emphasis is placed on sectors like agro-processing, handloom, handicrafts, and tourism, which align with the region's strengths.

A significant aspect of Scheme X is its focus on developing connectivity infrastructure. Enhanced road, rail, and air networks aim to integrate the NER with domestic and international markets. Additionally, the scheme emphasizes skill development programs to prepare the local workforce for industrial demands.

By fostering a business-friendly environment and leveraging the region's natural and cultural assets, Scheme X aspires to boost economic activity, generate employment, and ensure inclusive growth in the NER, paving the way for its sustainable industrial development.

Q.17)

Under the Scheme X, an industrial unit will be considered as an 'Expansion' only if the cost of new plant and machinery (P&M) required is at least _____ of the total investment in the unit. Fill the gap

- [a] 25%
- [b] 30%
- [c] 35%
- [d] 40%
- [e] 45%

Q.18)

How many special economic zones have been formally approved in North Eastern Region by the Government?

- [a] Ten

[b] Seven

[c] Five

[d] Two

[e] Four

Q.19)

Which of the following are features of the Scheme X mentioned in the above passage?

(1) Access to pre-defined process-based incentives

(2) Streamlined application process

(3) Guidance and support from experienced professionals

(4) Dedicated team committed to ensuring your success

[a] 1, 3 and 4

[b] 1, 2 and 4

[c] 2, 3 and 4

[d] 1, 2 and 3

[e] All of the above

I.20) Read the following passage and answer the questions that follow –

Mission X is a comprehensive initiative aimed at fostering sustainable agricultural practices to combat the challenges posed by climate change. It emphasizes the adoption of eco-friendly technologies and farming methods to enhance agricultural productivity while ensuring environmental conservation. The mission focuses on increasing the resilience of Indian agriculture by promoting practices such as water-use efficiency, soil health management, and agroforestry.

A key feature of Mission X is its emphasis on integrated farming systems, which aim to diversify income sources for farmers through activities like horticulture, livestock management, and aquaculture. It also encourages the use of organic fertilizers, bio-pesticides, and crop rotation to reduce dependence on chemical inputs. The initiative prioritizes vulnerable regions, particularly those prone to droughts, floods, or other climate-induced stresses, offering tailored solutions to mitigate risks.

Q.20)

The Soil Health Management (SHM) component aims to improve soil health and productivity through sustainable soil management practices. Under which mission

does this component operate?

- [a] National Mission on Agricultural Extension
- [b] National Mission on Sustainable Agriculture
- [c] National Soil Health and Fertility Mission
- [d] Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana
- [e] Paramparagat Krishi Vikas Yojana

1 Markers

Q.21)

According to the 73rd Constitutional Amendment Act, what is the fixed duration of the tenure for members of Panchayats at the village, intermediate, and district levels?

- [a] 4 years
- [b] 5 years
- [c] 6 years
- [d] 7 years
- [e] 10 years

Q.22)

Which of the following cattle breeds, specifically adapted to withstand harsh climatic conditions, is considered a draught breed and commonly used for agricultural work?

- [a] Gir
- [b] Hallikar
- [c] Sahiwal
- [d] Red Sindhi
- [e] Kankrej

Q.23)

In the context of agricultural extension education, which individual or group plays the most crucial role in determining the success of extension programs by directly applying the knowledge and techniques imparted?

- [a] Government Agencies
- [b] Extension Workers
- [c] Researchers
- [d] Farmer
- [e] Agronomists

Q.24)

What percentage of India's total workforce is employed in the agriculture sector, reflecting its critical role in the country's economy and rural livelihoods?

- [a] More than 30%
- [b] More than 35%
- [c] More than 45%
- [d] More than 55%
- [e] More than 62%

Q.25)

According to the landholding criteria set by Indian agricultural policies, what size of land is classified as 'small farmers' in terms of operational holdings?

- [a] 0.5 to 1 hectare
- [b] 1 to 2 hectares
- [c] 2 to 5 hectares
- [d] 5 to 10 hectares
- [e] Above 10 hectares

Q.26)

Which of the following statements is/are correct about Natural Farming Bhartiya Prakratik Krishi Paddhati (NF-BPKP)?

- (1) Use of on-farm desi cow dung-urine formulations***
- (2) Help in increasing productivity***
- (3) Help in branding and certification***

- [a] 1 Only

- [b] 2 and 3 Only
- [c] 1 and 2 Only
- [d] 1 and 3 Only
- [e] All of the above

Q.27)

India will monitor flows of foreign funds after its inclusion into _____ emerging market debt index and take steps to avoid ' _____ ' that can trigger volatility in currency and bond markets. Fill the gaps

- [a] FTSE Russell, Speculative money
- [b] JP Morgan, Hot money
- [c] Bloomberg Barclays, Sudden surges
- [d] MSCI, Volatile flows
- [e] S&P Dow Jones, Market shocks

Q.28)

Identify correct statement/s with respect to Sansad Adarsh Gram Yojana

- [a] To generate models of local level development and effective local governance, which can motivate and inspire neighbouring Gram Panchayats to learn and adapt.
- [b] To substantially improve the standard of living and quality of life of all sections of the population through improved basic amenities, higher productivity, enhanced human development
- [c] Members of Parliament are being leveraged directly for development at the Gram Panchayat level
- [d] A and B
- [e] A, B and C

Q.29)

Under Agri Clinics and Agri Business Centres Scheme (ACABC), Agri-Clinics are envisaged to provide expert advice and services to farmers on which of the following services to enhance productivity and income of the farmers?

(1) Soil health

(2) Cropping practices

(3) Plant protection

(4) Crop insurance Clinical services for animals, feed and fodder management

(5) Post-harvest technology

[a] 1, 2 and 3

[b] 3, 4 and 5

[c] 2, 3, 4 and 5

[d] 1, 3, 4 and 5

[e] 1, 2, 3, 4 and 5

Q.30)

Which mobile app has been launched by the Ministry of Agriculture & Farmers Welfare to provide farmers with information on weather forecasts, market prices, agro-advisories, and plant protection practices?

[a] eNAM App

[b] Krishi Megh App

[c] Kisan Suvidha App

[d] PM-Kisan Mobile App

[e] Pusa Krishi App