

The word AGRICULTURE is derived from Latin words

AGER (AGRA) meaning Soil & culture
cultivatio meaning cultivation.

in which around 50% of the world pop engaged. (02)

Agriculture

Agriculture is a Primary activity and is the most widely adopted & important occupation of human beings.

In developed countries the percentage of pop engaged in agriculture is less than 10% whereas in developing countries it is about 60-65%.

Agriculture includes Growing crops, fruits, vegetables, flowers & rearing of livestock. Favorable topography of soil & climate are vital for agricultural activity. The land on which the crops are grown known as ARABLE LAND. Agriculture or Farming as a system, has important inputs (Sunshine, Rainfall, Temperature, Soil, Water) (physical inputs) (seeds, fertilizers, Machinery & labour) (human inputs) and outputs (Crops, wool, Dairy & Poultry products). Some of the operations involved in agriculture are Ploughing, Sowing, Irrigation, Weeding & Harvesting.
(सत) (कृषि) (सिंचना) (हरि)

which is the one of the most fundamental form of human activities, (आजकाल)

Thus, Agriculture is practised under multiple combinations of physical & socio-economic conditions, which gives rise to different types of agricultural systems. An agricultural system may be single farm or group of interrelated farms having similarities of agricultural attributes. Regional variations are also found in the method of cultivation & agricultural system because they have developed in response to their adaptation to the varying environment conditions.

Agriculture is an ancient occupation. The ancient civilizations of Mexico, Nile valley, Mesopotamia, Mohenjodaro & Harappa and Wei Ho valley (China) developed along with the development of the Agriculture. In ancient times, Indians were advised to grow more crops as the verse in "Taittiriya Upanishada" suggests:-
"Annam bahu kusneet, tad vratam" (Grow more food, that is the duty).

Also, in many countries, besides being an Economic activity, "agriculture is also a way of life" which is reflected in their rites, rituals & other cultural elements. We can cite India as an examples → whether it is Lohri @ Holi, Pongal @ Onam, in spite of being celebrated in different parts of the Country, they are closely linked with agricultural operations.

Agricultural Regions

Agricultural Regions are such wide areas where there is ~~uniformity~~ homogeneity in agricultural conditions, especially in the ~~types of~~ crops varieties & their methods of production, and there is a characteristic

Co-relation: ~~relatedness~~ ^{exposure} ~~(relationship)~~ ^{affiliation (affinity)}

of the ~~use of~~ agricultural land. This ~~relationship~~ ^{association} is often reflected in the equipment used in agricultural work, the ~~habitation~~ ^{residence} of the farmers, the way ~~of living~~ ^{of living} standard of living in a particular agricultural region. Thus, an Agricultural region differs ^{distinctly} significantly in homogeneity and affiliation (affinity).

Reasons for the emergence & development of Agricultural Regions →

Various elements of Natural & Human environment are the factors of origin, development & characteristics of Agricultural regions. The Natural environment has a relatively greater impact on agricultural conditions. Climate, Surface & Soil Variations affect a crop & its production method. But the relative investment of labour and capital in agriculture, the conditions related to consumption of production and equipment etc. ~~are~~ ^{vary} according to the Human environment. These factors are as follows —

(A) Factors related to Natural Environment

- Climate,
- Soil,
- Surface.
- etc.

(B) Factors related to Human Environment

- Density of population,
- State of Technological advancement,
- cultural/Traditional characteristics,
- Socio-economic-political environment.

① 1) Climate → Different types of climate are required for different crops. For this especially, the conditions related to Temperature & Moisture are more important. Each crop requires a specific temperature at the time of its growing & harvesting. In the high & middle latitudes, the duration of crop cultivation has a greater impact. This duration actually depends on the availability of the proper temperature for a sufficient period of time to grow the crop. Similarly, the ^{time & types} amount of rainfall (Snow, frost & hail), Sunny & cloudy conditions, the amount of moisture available in the soil, etc. have the direct effect on the crops.

2) Soil → The effect of soil on the production of crops is not less than the climate. The production of crops is highly dependent on the →

- Physical Structure & Composition,
- Availability of minerals & organic matter
- PH value

} of the Soil.

3) Surface → The nature of the Surface also has a great impact on the crops. The varieties and other characteristics of crops vary according to ~~the~~ the,

- the Elevation of the surface,
- the amount & direction of the slope,
- the Roughness & Flatness of the surface.

(B) For the agricultural region, more than the homogeneity of ~~crop production conditions~~, their other diverse characteristics like production methods, intensity of agriculture & its specialization etc. are influenced not only by the Natural environment but also by various elements of the Human environment. That is why from areas with the same natural environment, a lot of variation in the characteristics of agriculture. For instance → Sino-Japanese agriculture is very different from agriculture in the Eastern USA in the same natural environment and in the same latitudes. This variation is not due to variation in Rainfall, Temperature, Soil & Surface but due to the differences in Western versus Oriental civilization & technology. The major human factors influencing agricultural characteristics are as follows →

1) Density of Population Those places which ~~has~~ ^{high (strong)} high popⁿ density; there is a tendency to produce for local consumption in agriculture because of the problem of Subsistence (आरत-भोजन) of more people. Due to the large population, labour investment in agriculture is more than the capital. Only a minimal amount of the total production is available for sale and what the farmer sells is also consumed locally. Eg → Monsoon Asia like India, China. On the contrary, countries with less population, if other conditions are equal, ~~the~~ Capital investment is more ~~in agriculture~~ and agriculture is of a Commercial mode in which the production of a particular