Civil Services (Main) Examination, 1996

AGRICULTURE

(Paper I)

Time Allowed : Three Hours **Maximum Marks : 300**

QUESTION PAPER SPECIFIC INSTRUCTIONS

(Please read each of the following instructions carefully before attempting questions)

There are EIGHT questions divided in two Sections.
Candidate has to attempt FIVE questions in all.
Question Nos. 1 and 5 are compulsory and out of the remaining, any THREE are to be attempted choosing at least ONE question from each Section.
All questions carry equal marks.
Wherever any assumptions are made for answering a question, they must be clearly indicated.
Word limit in questions, wherever specified, should be adhered to.

SECTION 'A'

1. Write short critical notes in about 200 words each on any three of the following:

- **(a)** Farming system approach
- **(b)** Flue curing
- **(c)** Nitrification inhibitors
- **(d)** Research-Extension-Farmer Linkage

2. Discuss the five major improved management practices for increasing cotton and sugarcane production in the country.

3. Suggest various approaches of scheduling irrigation in field crops and select the most appropriate one with reasoning. Describe one of the approaches for scheduling irrigation in cereal crops.

4. Classify the herbicides used for weed control in field crops. Discuss the integrated weed management practices for paddy-wheat rotation of North-Western India.

SECTION 'B'

5. Write short critical notes in about 200 words each on any three of the following:

- **(a)** Sodic soils
- **(b)** Puddling in rice
- **(c)** Role of solar radiation in rice
- **(d)** Soil water

6. What do you understand by soil and water conservation? Describe the situations under which these are considered essential. Suggest suitable soil and water conservation practices under levelled field conditions.

7. Explain the climatic and edaphic factors that form the constraints associated with dryland agriculture. Describe the measures which will help in the reduction of runoff and increase the infiltration of water in soil.

8. What do you mean by producer's surplus of agricultural commodities? Describe its importance and relationship between marketed and marketable surplus along with the factors which affects them.

English version compiled from published transcriptions and cross-checked across sources; not a facsimile of the official UPSC question paper.

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