

M.A. Examination, 2024
Semester-IV
Economics
Course: OP-13 (Optional)
(Applied Agricultural Economics)

Time: 3 Hours

Full marks: 40

Questions are of value as indicated in the margin
Answer any **four** questions

1. Identify different categories of uncertainties confronting a peasant farmer. Examine the impact of uncertainty on the economic decision making of the peasants. (5+5)
2. Distinguish between the tenant model (Marshall) and the landowner model (Cheung) of share cropping. 10
3. Describe the three stages in the transition from subsistence to specialized agriculture. What are the principle characteristics of each of these stages? (4+6)
4. What are the challenges confronting the smallholder agriculture in the larger Asian context? Suggest some policies to mitigate the challenges. (6+4)
5. What are the issues related to the agricultural loan waiver schemes in India? Critically comment on any two of these issues. (4+6)
6. How do you think India's food grain policy can be re-designed to ensure price stabilization after plugging the loopholes in the existing food grains policy? (10)
7. Explain possible causes of transition from agriculture to non-agriculture occupations in West Bengal. In this context, suggest certain policy measures. (8+2)
8. Why agricultural insurance is considered to be one important method to stabilize farm income? What are the impediments to the spread of Crop Insurance in India? (6+4)
