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Prelims PYQ, Mains model answers, and copy evaluation. Write to the desk for this paper, a doubt, or the AI waitlist.

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Q15

How do subsidies affect the cropping pattern, crop diversity and economy of farmers? What is the significance of crop insurance, minimum support price and food processing for small and marginal farmers?

UPSC Civil Services Mains 2017 · GS III · 15 marks · Crops, Irrigation and Marketing

Major crops - cropping patterns in various parts of the country; different types of irrigation and irrigation systems; storage, transport and marketing of agricultural produce and issues and related constraints; e-technology in the aid of farmers.

Facts & figures for this PYQ only.

Numbers move. Confirm the latest Budget, Economic Survey or census round. This sheet is for revision, not a substitute for the model answer.

<https://wrapexams.com/upsc/mains-answers/gs-3/2017/how-do-subsidies-affect-the-cropping-pattern-crop-diversity-and-economy-of-farmers-what-is-the-significance-of-crop-insurance-minimum-support-price-and-food-processing-for-small-and-marginal-farmers/>

Urea subsidy

Long-standing fertiliser subsidy that cheapened nitrogen relative to other nutrients and favoured cereal doses.

Unmetered farm power

Flat or free electricity that makes groundwater paddy privately rational and socially costly.

PMFBY 2016

Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bima Yojana: lower farmer premium and wider notified-crop cover than earlier schemes.

MSP

Minimum Support Price: a floor that changes cropping only when a public or designated buyer actually lifts the crop.

Small and marginal farmers

Hold most Indian holdings; they need risk tools and local markets more than they need a second cheap urea bag.