

- This type of agriculture is **characterised by dominance of the rice crop**.
- **Land holdings are very small** due to the high density of population.
- Farmers work with the help of **family labour** leading to intensive use of land. **Use of machinery is limited** and most of the agricultural operations are done by manual labour. Farm yard manure is used to maintain the fertility of the soil.
- In this type of agriculture, **the yield per unit area is high but per labour productivity is low**.
- **Due to fragmented nature** of the land subsistence farming remains **devoid of mechanisation and benefits from economy of scale**.
- **Government efforts:** Indian government has launched **Intensive agriculture development program (IADP)**. Government is putting efforts to **transform subsistence farming into commercial farming** by forming **Farmer Produce Company** where land pooling by small farmers under the administration of expert professionals would bring them higher returns from the farming.

2. Plantation Agriculture

- **Plantation agriculture was introduced by the Europeans in colonies** situated in the tropics. Some of the important plantation crops are tea, coffee, cocoa, rubber, cotton, oil palm, sugarcane, bananas and pineapples.
- It is a type of commercial farming where monoculture is practiced having strong linkages with industries.
- **The characteristic features of this type of farming are** : Large estates or plantations, large capital investment, managerial and technical support, scientific methods of cultivation, single crop specialisation, cheap labour, and a good system of transportation which links the estates to the factories and markets for the export of the products.
- **Geographical areas** : They are largely **confined to tropical areas**. In India plantation agriculture has developed in hilly areas of **north east e.g. Tea plantation , Nilgiri , Annamalai , Baba Budan and Cardomam hills etc having plantation of coffee , rubber etc.**
- **Employment** : In Southern India **plantation crops generates employment to 13 lakh people** and tea , coffee , pepper grown here **have high demand overseas**.
- **Value addition** : **Value addition** is key to get sustainable benefits from plantations. **Processing** of coffee , tea enhances their value and helps to increase demand as well.
- **Government efforts for oil palm plantation:** Cabinet has decided to promote oil palm cultivation in 20 lakh acres in four years. Centre is spending 70000 crore on import of edible oils every year as production of oil seed is very low in the country. Even Telangana government is planning to promote oil palm plantation in 20 lakh acres.

Palm Oil

National Edible Oil Mission – Oil Palm (NMEO-OP)

- The government of India launched a ₹11,000 crore National Edible Oil Mission-Oil Palm (NMEO-OP) to achieve self-reliance in edible oils.
- **Objectives of the Schemes**
 - ❖ To reduce India's edible oil import dependence from 60% to 45% by 2024-25, by focusing on domestic edible oil production.
 - ❖ The target is to scale up production of Palm oil from the current 10.5 million tonnes to 18 million tonnes, a 70% growth target.
 - ❖ The special focus under it will be given to India's north-eastern states and also the Andaman and Nicobar Islands, due to their conducive weather conditions for the growth of Palm.
 - ❖ Oil palm farmers will be given financial assistance and will also receive remuneration under a price and viability formula.