

because each crop requires specific temperatures for its growth and development. Example-Some crops require higher temperature and are sown in the summer season. These are known as the Kharif Crops. In a similar way, some crops which require lower temperature and are sown in the winter season. They are known as the Rabi Crops.

- **Statement 2 is correct:** Monocropping is the agricultural practice of growing a single crop year after year on the same land. Crops like Maize, soybeans, and wheat are often grown using monocropping techniques. Monocropping allows for farmers to have consistent crops throughout their entire farm, which may increase overall farm profitability. However, monocropping can lead to the quicker buildup of pests and diseases, and then their rapid spread where a uniform crop is susceptible to a pathogen.
- **Statement 3 is correct:** Prices and Income Maximisation influence the acreage under crops in many ways- The price differential between two crops leads to change in cropping pattern in favour of crops that give better returns, The crops which assure more stable incomes get favoured by farmers and the Minimum Support Price offered for crops also affect the Combination of crops favoured by farmers.

Q.31) Ans: b

Exp:

- **Statement 1 is incorrect:** Central Sector Scheme are the schemes that are entirely and directly funded and executed by the central government. The schemes are formulated by the Centre, based on subjects from the Union List. Agriculture Infrastructure Fund is a Central Sector Scheme to provide medium - long term debt financing facility for investment in viable projects for post-harvest management Infrastructure and community farming assets.
- **Statement 2 is correct:** Under the scheme, Rs. 1 Lakh Crore will be provided by banks and financial institutions as loans to the eligible beneficiaries. All loans under this financing facility will have interest subvention of 3% per annum up to a limit of Rs. 2 crore. This subvention will be available for a maximum period of 7 years. Further, credit guarantee coverage will be available for eligible borrowers from this financing

facility under Credit Guarantee Fund Trust for Micro and Small Enterprises (CGTMSE) scheme for a loan up to Rs. 2 crore.

- **Statement 3 is correct:** The Eligible Beneficiaries under the Agriculture Infrastructure Fund are Farmers, FPOs, PACS, Marketing Cooperative Societies, SHGs, Joint Liability Groups (JLG), Multipurpose Cooperative Societies, Agri-entrepreneurs, Start-ups, and Central/State agency or Local Body sponsored Public-Private Partnership (PPP) Projects.

Q.32) Ans: c

Exp:

- **Statement 1 is incorrect:** The Ministry of Agriculture & Farmers' Welfare has launched a Scheme on Internship Programme (SIP) i.e. Sahakar Mitra. It is an initiative by the National Cooperative Development Corporation (NCDC) for young professionals. It is expected to be beneficial for both i.e. cooperatives as well as for the young professionals. The Sahakar Mitra scheme will help cooperative institutions access new and innovative ideas of young professionals while the interns will gain experience of working in the field to be self-reliant.
- **Statement 2 is correct:** Bhavantar Bhugtan Yojana in Madhya Pradesh was sought to provide relief to farmers by providing the differential between MSPs and market prices. The basic purpose of the scheme was to compensate farmers in the event of a price crash and to that extent hedge the price risk faced by them. Farmers who register under the scheme are compensated only if their selling price (SP) is lower than the government set minimum support price (MSP).
- **Statement 3 is correct:** Zero tillage is the process where the crop seed will be sown through drillers without prior land preparation and disturbing the soil where previous crop stubbles are present. Zero tillage not only reduces the cost of cultivation it also reduces the soil erosion, crop duration and irrigation requirement but also helps in carbon sequestration.

Q.33) Ans: d

Exp:

- Krishi Megh is the data recovery centre of Indian Council of Agricultural Research. The data recovery