

BAL BHARATI PUBLIC SCHOOL, PITAMPURA, DELHI – 110034

SUBJECT- ECONOMICS

CHAPTER-1 STORY OF VILLAGE PALAMPUR

Dear students

Please read the given content carefully and attempt the activities given in between the lesson.

For reference, please read Page no. 7 and 8 of NCERT textbook. You may also refer to the link given below.

http://ncert.nic.in/textbook/textbook.htm?iess2=1-4

INTRODUCTION

In this E-lesson, we will study about **LABOUR** as the factor of production.

TYPES OF FARMERS

- 1. MEDIUM/LARGE FARMERS
- 2. SMALL FARMERS
- 3. LANDLESS PEOPLE

DEMAND FOR LABOUR

It is mainly the wealthy Medium/Large farmers who demand labour and therefore hire labour to work on their big fields.

SUPPLY OF LABOUR

It is the landless people who supply labour to these large farmers. These landless people do not have any land of their own. So, they work on the fields of the large farmers to earn their livelihood.

Also, the labour is provided by the small farmers as they do not have sufficient land with them.

The earnings from their small plots of land is insufficient for them. Hence, they have to look for the extra sources of earning income. As a result, they start working as farm labourers for the medium/large farmers.

These small farmers are double burdened as they have to work on their own fields and on the fields of others as well.

CONDITION OF FARM LABOURERS

- 1. Farm labourers do not have a right on the crops grown by them.
- 2. They are paid wages by the farmers they work for.
- 3. Wages vary widely from region to region and from crop to crop.
- 4. They are employed only during certain seasons.
- 5. The wages paid to the farm labourers is less than the minimum wages set up by the government. There is a heavy competition among the farm labourers in Palampur. So ,they agree to work at lower wages.

ACTIVITY- Read the conversation between Dala and Ramkali given on Page 8 of the NCERT TEXTBOOK.

It is difficult to find work these days. Only the large farmers hire us. And that too for very limited number of days.

Ghansyam, the large farmer, has just bought a harvester. So we are going to get even less work during the harvest season this year. Last year I worked for less than five months in the whole year.

We have tractors for ploughing, harvesters for harvesting, threshers for threshing. Even for removing weeds, some farmers spray weedicide.

I owe the local moneylender Rs.2000. I had taken Rs.1000 last summer when no work was available in the fields. How will I ever repay? I hardly earn enough for two square meals. This year I will have to look for work in the brick-making unit in Raiganj.

> My situation is not much better. Due to past debt the moneylenders refuse to give me any loan.

ASSIGNMENT

- Q1 Describe the work of a farmer with 1 hectare of land.
- Q2. Throw light on the plight of farm labourers in Palampur.

Q3. Why are the wages of farm labourers in Palampur less than the minimum wages set up by the government?