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CLASS-10<sup>TH</sup>

(BASED ON N C E R T PATTERN)

DATE:- 19.08.21

HISTORY

The age of industrialisation

Question 1.

Why did the network of export trade in textiles that was controlled by Indian merchants, break down by the 1750s ? What were its effects ?

Answer:

(a) Causes : Following were the causes for breaking down of the network of export trade :

1. The European companies gained power by securing a variety of concessions from local courts (rulers or officials).
2. They got the monopoly rights to trade.
3. European companies started their operations from new ports of Bombay and Calcutta.
4. Trade through the new ports was controlled by the European companies and was carried in European ships.

(b) Effects :

1. Old ports of Surat and Hoogly declined.
2. Exports from these ports fell, the credit that had financed the earlier trade dried up and the local bankers went bankrupt. The gross value of trade at Surat fell from ? 16 million in the last years of the seventeenth century to ? 3 million in 1740s.

3. Export from Bombay and Calcutta grew with the growth of colonial power. Trade was now controlled by European companies and was carried out in European ships.
4. It also led to collapse of old trading houses.

Question 2.

How did East India Company ensure regular supply of cotton and silk goods from Indian weavers ? Explain.

Or

How did East India Company develop a system of management and control that would eliminate competition, control costs, and ensure regular supplies of cotton and silk goods ? What were its results ?

Answer:

(a) Before establishing political power, the East India Company had found it difficult to ensure regular supply of goods for exports due to tough competition with the French, Dutch, Portuguese and local traders. The weaver and the supply merchants used to sell the produce to the best buyer. But once the company established political power, it could assert a monopoly right to trade. Therefore, the East India Company took the following steps :

1. It appointed a paid servant called the gomastha to supervise weavers, collect supplies, and examine the quality of cloth.
2. It prevented Company weaver from dealing with other buyers by system of advances because the weavers who took loans had to hand over the cloth they produced to the gomastha.

(b) Results : The condition of weavers became bad. They took advances to earn more. In the process they had to devote all their time to weaving and had to lease out their small plots of land. The weavers had to sell their cloth only to the Company. They could not bargain. The prices they got were low and the advances tied there to the Company. At many places weavers deserted villages and migrated to other villages. Some took to agricultural labour.

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