

CLASS:11Th,
HISTORY,
NOTES,
CHAPTER:-09

INDUSTRIAL REVOLUTION

CAUSES OF INDUSTRIAL REVOLUTION

(i) **Economic** – There was remarkable economic growth from the 1780s to 1820 in the cotton and iron industries, in coal mining, in the building of roads and canals and in foreign trade.

(ii) **Political** – The series of incidents occurred in British industrial development between 1760 and 1820. These dates coincided with those of the reign of George III.

Why Britain?

It had been politically stable since the seventeenth century, with England, Wales and Scotland unified under a monarchy. This meant that the kingdom had common laws, a single currency and a market that was not fragmented by local authorities. Besides, England had great domestic and international market under its control which helped in the growth of Industrial Revolution.

- **Towns** – From the eighteenth century, many towns in Europe were growing in area and in population. Population of most of the European cities doubled between 1750 and 1800. The largest of them was London, which served as the hub of the country's markets, with the next largest ones located close to it. London had also acquired a global significance.
- **Finance** – The Bank of England was founded in 1694.
- **Coal & Iron** – Coal and Iron ore were important raw materials. Abraham Darby invented the blast furnace in 1709. World's first iron bridge was built during this period
- **Agricultural Revolution** – In the eighteenth century, England had been through a major economic change, later described as the 'agricultural revolution'. This was the process by which bigger landlords had bought up small farms near their own properties and enclosed the village common lands. The agricultural revolution laid down the foundation of the Industrial Revolution

