CLASS:-12TH, HISTORY QUESTIONS & ANSWERS, CHAPTER:- COLONIALISM AND THE COUNTRYSIDE

DATE:- 17/06/21

- Question 21. When Cotton Supply Association and the Manchester Cotton Company were founded in Britain? What was their objective? Answer:
- Cotton Supply Association in Britain, was founded in 1857 and Manchester Cotton Company was formed in 1859.
- Their objective was to encourage the production of cotton in every part of the world so that their Company could grow.

Question 22.

Tell any two drawbacks of the RyotWari system of revenue introduced in the Bombay Deccan in 1920.

Answer:

- 1. At many places, the amount of revenue was very high. Therefore, many peasants deserted their villages and migrated to new regions.
- 2. Many areas had poor soil and fluctuating rainfall. When the rains failed, the peasants had a bad crop due to which they found it impossible to pay the revenue.

Question 23.

India was seen as a country that could supply cotton to Lancashire if the American supply dried up. Why was it so?

Answer:

The land of India was suitable for the cultivation of cotton.

Question 24.

Examine the impact of the limitation law passed by the British in 1859? Answer:

This law was meant to check the accumulation of interest one time and three years validity of the bonds sighed between money lenders and reports. Consequently, the money lenders manipulated and forced the people to sign the deeds after 3 years.

Short Answer Type

- Question 25.
 - When was the Permanent Settlement introduced in Bengal? Who enforced it? What ideas worked behind its imposition?
 - Or

With what major objectives did he British colonial power introduce

permanent settlement in Bengal during the 19th century? Answer:

- The British introduced a new system of revenue collection in Bengal. It was called the Permanent Settlement.
- What was the system? It was introduced by Lord Charles Cornwallis in 1793.
- Under this system, the East India Company had fixed the revenue that each Zamindar had to pay.
- If any Zamindar failed to make the payment of the revenue in time, his estates were auctioned to recover the due revenue.
- The ideas behind the system: By introducing the Permanent Settlement, the British officials wanted to resolve the problems that they faced.
- They were aware that the rural economy of Bengal was in crisis because of the following factors:
 - There was the recurrence of many famines.
 - There was a considerable decline in agricultural production.
- The regular flow of Revenue: The need for Hour:
- The British officials realised the need to enhance revenue resources.
- This could be done by encouraging investments in agriculture and trade.
- Therefore they permanently fixed the rates of revenue to ensure a regular flow of revenue.

Question 26.

Explain the Permanent Settlement of land. Answer:

The Permanent Settlement was made between the rajas and taluqdars of Bengal. These taluqdars were classified as the Zamindars. They paid the revenue fixed in perpetuity. The main features of the Permanent Settlement were as follows:

- 1. The Zamindars were not the owners of land in the village.
- 2. The Zamindars were the collectors of revenue of the State.
- 3. The Zamindars had many villages under them. Sometimes they had as many as 400 villages under their control.
- 4. The villages coming under one Zamindar formed one revenue estate.

- 5. The Zamindars collected rent from the villages under their control and paid this revenue to the officials of the East India Company.
- 6. The Zamindars were responsible for the regular payment of revenue to the East India Company. If ever they failed to do so their estate was auctioned.

Question 27.

What steps were taken by the 'East India Company to control and regulate the Zamindars and to restrict I their autonomy?

Or

Explain how the East India Company subdued the authority of the Zamindar in Bengal during the 18th century.

Or

The East India Company had recognised the Zamindars important but wanted to control and regulate them. Explain the steps taken by them to subdue their authority in the 18th century.

Answer:

No doubt, the East India Company considered the Zamindars very important. Yet it wanted to control and regulate them. It wanted to restrict their autonomy and that they should submit to the control of the Company. So it took the following steps to tame them:

- 1. The troops of Zamindars were disbanded.
- 2. The customs duties were abolished.
- 3. The courts (cutcheries) of the Zamindars were brought under the supervision of a Collector who was appointed by the East India Company.
- 4. The power of Zamindars to provide local justice and local police was snatched.
- 5. The emergence of the collectorate as, an alternative centre of authority restricted the jurisdiction of Zamindars.
- 6. When a raja failed to pay the revenue, an official of the East India Company rushed to his Zamindari.
- 7. He had clear instructions to take charge of the District and destroy all the influence and authority of the raja and his officers.

Question 28.

How did the Zamindars collect revenue from the ryots? Why was the collection of revenue a problem for them?

Answer:

For the purpose of revenue collection, a Zamindar had several villages under his control. He used to visit these villages with his 'amlah'. However, it was a great problem to collect the revenue because of the following reasons:

- 1. Sometimes the production of the crop was low.
- 2. Sometimes the crops had to be sold at low prices. It made payment of dues difficult for the ryots.
- 3. Sometimes the ryots deliberately delayed the payment. They created problems for the Zamindars.
- 4. The Zamindars were unable to assert their power over ryots.

- 5. No doubt they were empowered to prosecute the defaulters but it took a very long time in the judicial process.
- 6. There were more than thirty thousand pending suits in Burdwan alone, all concerned with the arrears of rent payments

Question 29.

Why did the British introduce new systems of revenue in place of Permanent Settlement in areas outside Bengal? Or Explain David Ricardo's ideas of rent of land. Or Examine how Ricardo's idea of land ownership was introduced in the Bombay Deccan.

Answer:

- When the British Government expanded its rule outside Bengal, it introduced new systems of revenue.
- It discarded the system of Permanent Settlement and did not introduce it in any area. It was because of the following reasons.
- No Share in Enhanced Income: There was an increase in agricultural price after 1810 C.E.
- It increased the income of the Zamindars in Bengal.
- the revenue was already fixed under the Permanent Settlement, the colonial state was unable to claim any share from the enhanced income of the farmers.
- As the government wanted to expand its financial resources, it introduced temporary revenue settlements in the newly annexed territories in the nineteenth century.

Impact of the Ideas of David Ricardo:

- The British Government introduced some of the ideas of David Ricardo, a famous economist, in the state of Maharashtra.
- Ricardo believed that a land-owner should claim only the average rent that prevailed at a given time.
- Many peasants in Bengal had leased out their land and were living on the rental income and such income had to be taxed.

- Thus, the British introduced the Ryotwari System of revenue settlement in the Bombay Deccan.
- Herein, the revenue was settled directly with the ryot. The revenue paying capacity of the ryot was assessed.
- The ryot paid his fixed share.
- <u>New Systems :-</u>Thus, we see that the British Government introduced many new revenue policies such as:
- Temporary Revenue Settlements
- Ryotwari Settlement.