Vidya bhavan Balika Vidyapith,

Class-6th, Sub. -Social Science, 12/07/21

Ch4-The First Cities (History)

Topic:-Life of the people

Trade-Harappan people traded to get raw materials. They got copper from Rajasthan and even from Oman in West Asia. Tin which was blended with copper to get bronze was brought from Afghanistan and Iran. Gold was brought from Karnataka and precious stones from Gujarat, Iran and Afghanistan. Seals of Harappan culture have been found in Mesopotamia indicating trade contacts with them. A dockyard has been found at Lothal.

A large number of people lived in towns. So farmers cultivated many crops. Charred grains, found at Harappan sites in which wheat, barley, lentil, sesame etc. Millets have been found from sites in Gujarat.

Food production:- Farmers had to grow crops a lot of to supply food to the city dwellers. Remains of plants that the Harappan produced wheat, barley, pulses, peas, rice, sesame, linseed and mustard.

The toy model of ploughs found at several sites suggest that Harappans must have used ploughs for farming. They also knew about the process of irrigation as they did it by storing water and supplying it to the fields.

Animal bones found at Harappan sites include those of cattle, sheep, goat, Buffalo and pig indicating that these animals were domesticated.

Administration:- The city was administered by a committee of people consisting of rich merchants. A stone statue has been found which the archaeologists have labelled as the priest king. So, the priest played an important role to administer the city. A variety of tasks such as regulation of trade, collection of taxes, maintenance of law and order was looked after by administration.

By:-Punit kumar Singh