



Vidya Bhawan balika Vidyapeeth. shakti utthan aashram Lakhisarai

Class-8th

(Based on N C E R T pattern)

Date:- 11.10.XX.

History

Colonial Education

Question 1.

What was Wood's Despatch? What were its provisions?

Answer:

The Court of Directors of the East India Company in London sent an educational despatch to the Governor- General in India in the year 1854. As the despatch was issued by Charles Wood, the President of the Board of Control of the Company, it came to be known as Wood's Despatch. ' Wood's Despatch outlined the educational policy that was to be followed in India. It criticised the Oriental knowledge and emphasised the need of European learning. The Despatch made it clear that European learning would enable Indians to recognise the benefits that would flow from the expansion of trade and commerce. It would also make them see the importance of developing country's resources. Indians needed to adopt European ways of life because this would change their tastes and desires and create a demand for British goods.

Wood's Despatch further argued that European learning would improve the moral character of the people of India. It would make them honest and reliable and thus supply trusted civil servants to the Company.

The Despatch strongly criticised the literature of the East because it was full of errors and unable to instill in people a sense of duty and a commitment to work.

Question 2.

What measures were undertaken by the Company to improve the system of vernacular education?

Or

How were the irregularities of pathshalas checked by the Company?

Answer:

There were no rules and regulations in pathshalas. Hence, the Company decided to improve the entire system. It took several measures:

- It appointed a number of government pandits, each in charge of looking after four to five schools. The task of the pandit was to visit the pathshalas and try and improve the standard of teaching.
- Each guru was asked to submit periodic reports and take classes according to a regular time table.
- Teaching was now to be based on textbooks and learning was to be tested through a system of annual examination.
- Students were asked to pay a regular fee, attend regular classes, sit on fixed seats, and obey the new rules of discipline.

Mr Anant kumar