

History ch-3.

G. Answer the following questions briefly.

Ans- 1. The company needed money to invest in buying commodities for trade. At It also required money to maintain an army to fight wars against other European powers and Indian rulers. Also, it had to send money to England because the shareholders of the Company were paid dividends. Another major expense of the Company was paying the officers of the administrative set up in India.

Ans- 2. According to the Sunset Law, if the zamindars did not pay their revenue to the British by the sunset of the specified date, the zamindari was to be auctioned.

Ans-3. The commercialization of agriculture was yet another result of the British economic policies in India towards the end of the 18th century. The peasants had to pay revenue in cash. To be able to pay cash, they had to sell off their harvested crops. The peasant did not get a proper price for his produce. He had to sell at a low price to get cash. This led the farmers to grow cash crops which give them more money. Cash crops like tobacco, cotton, sugarcane, tea, coffee, jute, oil seeds, pepper, cinnamon and indigo were sold in the market for ready cash. The peasants resorted to growing these instead of food crops to fulfil the demand for cash revenue.

Ans- 4. Peasants did not want to grow Indigo because the British bought it from farmer at very cheap rates, exported it to England and reaped huge profits. Earlier, the farmers grew indigo only on a small portion of their land. Now they were forced to cultivate indigo on their land instead of food crops. The cultivation of indigo adversely affected the fertility of the soil. If the peasants refused to grow indigo, they were beaten ruthlessly to compel them to cultivate indigo.

H. Read the source and answer the questions that follow.

1. (a) Cash
2. (b) Did not get a good price for their crops
3. (a) Tobacco
4. (a) Low prices