

PAPER - VI - 20 ECONOMIC HISTORY OF INDIA C. AD 1757-1947
(Questions will be set from each unit) 100 marks; 80 Lectures

UNIT 1

- a. Introduction
 - i. Issues and problems of Indian Economic History. Different approaches and their limitations
 - ii. Sources of Economic History of British India.
- b. Indian Economy in the Mid-Eighteenth Century
 - ii. Nature and structure of economy : rural and urban
 - iii. Agrarian and non-agrarian production, Technology and methods of production.
 - iv. Trade and indigenous banking
 - v. Debate on the potentialities of capitalist change in the pre-colonial economy: question of 'growth' in the late pre-colonial economy.
- c. Early Phase of Colonial Economy
 - i. Mercantilism and European economic interests in India. The East India Company and its rule in Bengal
 - ii. Indian manufactures for external market - internal commerce; the later debate on the question.

UNIT 2

- Agrarian Settlements and Agrarian Production
- a. Agrarian conditions - Regional variations

- b. The Permanent Settlement - objectives, operations, effects and official critiques.
- c. Ryatwari Settlements and Mahalwari system.
- d. Consequences of periodic settlements.
- e. Increase in the cultivation of export crops. New elements in the organization of production of export commodities.
- f. Ecological changes and rural society (with particular reference to the implications of increasing control of the colonial state on forests as distinguishable from 'settled peasant villages'.

UNIT 3

- a. Traditional Handicraft Industry and the question of De-industrialization
 - i. Artisans and handicraft products background
 - ii. Industrial capitalism and import of English cloth and yarn
 - iii. Debate over de-industrialization - regional variations.
 - iv. Handicraft industry in transition under colonialism
 - v. Capital and labour in handicraft industry.
- b. Railways and Indian Economy
 - i. Economic and political compulsions
 - ii. Unification and subjugation of Indian market
 - iii. Effects on agrarian production and export of raw material - commercialisation of agriculture
 - iv. Famines and British policy, nationalist criticism.

UNIT 4

- a. Large Scale Industry
 - i. Conditions before the emergence of modern industry
 - ii. Capitalist investment in India - Indigenous and British effects
 - iii. Modern industry in pre-1914 phase - nature - main industries : cotton, jute, iron and steel and others. Impediments to growth, nationalist critique, industry and the First World War phase with special reference to economic depression.
 - iv. Colonial state and industrial growth
 - v. Rise of industrial labour ; labour force in large scale industry; types of labour movements; changing social composition of industrial labour.
- b. Foreign Trade and Balance of Payments Changing nature of external trade - stages of Merchantilism, industrial capital and finance capital. Drain of Wealth and British overseas trade.

UNIT 5

- a. The Fiscal System
 - i. Shift from direct to indirect taxation
 - ii. Tariff and excise
 - iii. Monetary policies and credit system
- b. Price Movements.
 - i. Main trends in the movements of prices.
 - ii. Impact on rent of landlords.
 - iii. Impact on state revenues and trade.
- c. Population
 - i. Population growth pre and post Census estimates.
 - ii. De-urbanization controversy.
 - iii. Trends in demographic changes.