

The Age of Industrialisation

EXTRACT BASED QUESTIONS (EB)

Q.1. Read the following extract taken from the textbook and answer the questions given below:

Vasant Parkar, who was once a millworker in Bombay, said :

The workers would pay the jobbers money to get their sons work in the mill ... The mill worker was closely associated with his village, physically and emotionally. He would go home to cut the harvest and for sowing. The Konkani would go home to cut the paddy and the Ghati, the sugarcane. It was an accepted practice for which the mills granted leave.'

Meena Menon and Neera Adarkar, One Hundred Years: One Hundred Voices, 2004.

(a) What role did a jobber play for an industrialist?

(b) Name two Indian industrialists of the 19th century.

Ans. (a) Industrialists employed jobbers to get new recruits for them. They generally got village people jobs and provided them money in times of crisis. In exchange they demanded money and gifts and controlled the lives of the workers.

(b) The Indian industrialists were Dinshaw Petit and Janisetjee Nusserwanjee Tata.

Q.2. Read the following extract taken from the textbook and answer the questions given below:

The commissioner of patna wrote:

'It appears that twenty yeas ago. a brisk trade was carried on in the manufacture of cloth at Jahanabad, and Behar, which has in the former place entirely ceased while in the latter the amount of manufacture is very limited, in consequence of the cheap and durable goods from Manchester with which the Native manufacturers are unable to compete.'

Quoted in J. Krishnamurty, 'Deindustrialisation in Gangetic Bihar during the nineteenth century' The Indian Economic and Social History Review, 1985.

(a) Why was there a decline in the export of India's textiles?

(b) What were the problems faced by this weavers?

Ans. (a) The British adopted the one way free trade policy whereby heavy taxes were imposed on goods imported from India Manufactured goods from England on the other hand were not taxed at all. As a result Indian goods lost their market in India and abroad. Artisans were reduced to penury.

(b) Weaves faced a shortage of raw materials and collapse of both their local market and export market.