

## Popular Struggles and Movements

### ACTIVITY BASED ASSIGNMENTS

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**Q.1. Are you suggesting that strike, dharna, bandh and demonstration are a good thing ? I thought it happened only in our country, because we are not a mature democracy yet.**

[NCERT]

**Ans.** No, its not the sign of immature democracy but, Dharna, Strike, Bandh and demonstration are good for democracy if they promote collective good and follow democratic ideals of pressure groups. Interest groups, etc.

**Q.2. Does it mean that whichever side manages to mobilise a bigger crowd gets away with whatever it wants ? Are we saying that 'Might is Right' in a democracy**

[NCERT]

**Ans.** No, not at all, it is not might is right but the popular struggle for the collective good.

**Q.3. In 1984, the Karnataka government set up a company called Karnataka Pupwood Limited. About 30,000 hectares of land was given virtually free to this compay for 40 years. Much of this land was used by local farmers as grazing land for their cattle. However the company began to plant eucalyptus trees on this land, which could be used for making paper pulp. In 1987, a movement called Kittiko-Hachchiko (meaning, pluck and plant) started a non-violent protest, where people plucked the eucalyptus plants and planted saplings of trees that were useful to the people.**

**Suppose you belong to any of the following groups, what arguments would you put forward to defend your side : a local farmer, an environmental activist, a government official working in this company or just a consumer of paper.**

[NCERT]

**Ans.** (i) As a Local Farmer : We would have joined farmers and formed a farmer union. We would met the highest official of the government with a request that the grazing land belong to farmers and they should not be deprived from their common land.

(ii) As an Environmental Activist : Being an environmental activist, we would have taken out procession, followed by demonstration to draw the attention of the government and to force the government to cancel the contract with company.

(iii) As an Government Official : Being the part of governmental institution we would try to convince the farmer and environmental activist about demand and the benefits from the company. Like large number of employment, development of the village, better facilities to the villagers, etc.

- (iv) As a Consumer of Paper : We would request to the government that the land allotted to the company should be cancelled and be given to the local farmers. So that the farmers will use the land to grow such plant which would provide raw material for paper-industry.

**Q.4. Governments initiate schemes and programme to alleviate the suffering of the poor and meet their basic needs. But poverty remains in the country ? What could be the reasons for such a situation ?**

[NCERT]



**Ans.** The given cartoon signifies that poverty remains in the country due to :

- Improper implementation.
- Lack of awareness among the people.
- Absence of right to information.
- Absence of any pressure and interest groups.

**Q.5. Can you identify the pressure groups functioning in the news clippings given here ? What demand are they making ?**

[NCERT]



**Ans.** News Clippings  
Pro-American...AITUC

Pressure groups  
All India Trade Union Congress.

Bhopal gas victims... NGOa          Non-government Organisation

Journalists protest... Photographer      Journalist Union, i.e.. Mass media.

VAT dues to Delhi's Trades          Trade Union [Delhi Traders]

SEZs only way forward...says CII      Confederation of Indian Industry [Business group]

The above pressure groups are making the demands for :

- Better job satisfaction and employment opportunities.
- To increase National awarness, Class-consciousness and sense of international solidarity among the workers.

**Q.6. What are the social movements listed in these news clippings ? What efforts are they making? Which sections are they trying to mobilise ?**



- Ans.**
- Sodal movements listed in these news clippings are Sectional and public interest groups.
  - They are trying to mobilize the "socio-economical backward people".