

Long Answer Questions

Q.1. Identify the reasons which led to the Chipko Movement in U.P in early 1970s. What was the impact of this movement?

Ans. It began in villages of Uttarakhand when the villagers were refused permission to fell ash trees by the forest department. The land was then allotted for commercial use to a sports' manufacturer. The villagers protested against the practices of logging to be permitted by government. The villagers, especially the women began to hug the trees to protect them from being cut down. The movement had wide-reaching impact. The movement soon spread over many parts of Uttarakhand and important issues were also raised like that of economic exploitation and ecological. Government issued a ban on felling of trees in Himalayan region for fifteen years until green cover was fully restored. The active participation of women became an important aspect of the movement and soon became a symbol of many such popular movements emerging in different parts of the country.

Q.2. Who were Dalit Panthers? Describe their main activities.

[CBSE (AI) 2016]

Ans. Dalit Panthers were a militant organization of the Dalit Youth, which was formed in Maharashtra in 1972.

Main Activities of Dalit Panthers.

- (i) Their activities always centred around fighting against atrocities on Dalits.
- (ii) Their main agenda was to destroy the caste-system.
- (iii) To build an All India Organization of all the oppressed section.
- (iv) It provided a platform for the Dalit educated youth to use their creativity as a protest activity.

Q.3. Write a note on the Narmada Bachao Andolan.

Ans. Narmada Bachao Andolan was associated to the opposition of Sardar Sarovar Project. The main issue concerning the nature of the dam was the on-going development of raising the height of the dam, the efficacy of the model of development on local residents and the displacement of millions of people and their loss of livelihood. The movement demanded proper rehabilitation of all those to be affected from the construction of these projects. This movement also probed the nature of decision making process to be in the formation of mega scale development projects. Other demands of the Movement insisted that the decision of the local communities must also be taken in consideration along with their effective control over natural resources.

Therefore, NBA led to the comprehensive National Rehabilitation Policy formed by government in 2003.

Q.4. Mention the main objectives of any three social movements of India.

Ans. The Chipko Movement

- a. It raised the issues of economic and ecological exploitation by private companies in forest land.
- b. The villagers protested against the practices of commercial logging permitted by the government.

Anti-Arrack movement

- a. The women in Karnataka wanted to halt the rise of alcoholism and alcohol mafia.
- b. They protested against the decline in the village economy and rise in domestic conflicts due to alcohol abuse by men.

Narmada Bachao Andolan

- a. Narmada Bachao Andolan associates its opposition to Sardar Sarovar Project with larger issues concerning the nature of on-going developmental projects.
- b. It demanded the relocation of the people that suffered from the construction of dam and compensation for loss of livelihood.

Q.5. Describe any six factors which made the farmers' movement run by Bhartiya Kisan Union as the most successful popular movement.

[CBSE Delhi 2016]

- Ans. a.** Kisan Andolan led by BKU was one of the most disciplined agitations.
- b.** BKU used clan networks for generating funds and resources.
- c.** BKU used traditional Caste Panchayats to bring them together on economic issues.
- d.** The demands raised by BKU were very dear to farmers and were readily accepted by the farmers.
- e.** BKU kept itself away from politics and worked as a pressure group.
- d.** BKU used the pressure tactics and showed the strength and power of the farmers.

Q.6. Describe the issues associated with the Anti-arrack Movements in Andhra Pradesh which drew the attention of the entire country.

[CBSE Delhi 2016]

Ans. The main issues of the anti-Arrack movement were:

1. The main of this movement was to prohibit the sale of arrack.

2. Its demand affected a broader section of society, economy and politics which were also related to crime and politics.
3. It gave women a platform to openly discuss the issues of domestic violence, sexual violence and dowry.

The anti-arrack movement drew the attention to:

1. The movement originated from the adult literacy drive, where women complained about the increasing consumption of the locally brewed alcohol by the men of their families.
2. There were protest organised by the women of Nellore against the arrack and there was a forced closure of the wine shops. Slowly this movement spread to other states.
3. In this movement, the rural women of Andhra Pradesh protested against alcoholism, government and mafias.

Q.7. Examine the growth and characteristics of Bharatiya Kisan Union.

[CBSE Sample Paper 2016]

Ans. Growth and Characteristics of Bharatiya Kisan Union:

- a. It is an organization of farmers from the Western UP and Haryana regions. It is one of the leading organizations in the farmers' movement in the eighties. The Meerut agitations of farmers were seen as a great show of rural power- power of farmer cultivators.
- b. The BKU demanded higher government floor prices for sugarcane and wheat, abolition of restrictions on the inter-state movement of the farm produce, guaranteed supply of electricity at reasonable rates, waiving of repayments due on loans to farmers and provision of government pension for farmers.
- c. Activities conducted by the BKU to pressurize the state for accepting its demands included rallies, demonstrations, sit - ins, and Jail bhara agitations.
- d. Another novel aspect of this mobilization was the use of caste linkages of farmers. Most of BKU members belonged to single community.
- e. In spite of lack of any formal organization, the BKU could sustain itself for a long time because it was based on clan networks among its members.

Q.8. Describe the journey of the movement for Right to Information which ultimately culminated into an Act i.e., RTI Act 2005.

[CBSE (AI) 2016]

Ans. The timeline of the Right to Information Act is:

- (i) The movement began with MKSS in Rajasthan demanding information related to famine relief work and accounts of labourers.

(ii) The movement led to a change in the Rajasthan Panchayat Raj Act by the State government.

(iii) MKSS began stir in Delhi in 1996 for a Right to Information Act.

(iv) The RTI Act was introduced in Parliament in 2002 but was not passed.

(v) The RTI act became a law in 2005 after the President's assent.