

## Chapter 3 Ruling the Countryside

1. Match the following:

Ryot	Village
Mahal	Peasant
Nij	Cultivation on ryot's lands
Ryoti	Cultivation on planter's own land

Answer.

Ryot	Peasant
Mahal	Village
Nij	Cultivation on planter's own land
Ryoti	Cultivation on ryot's land

2. Fill in the blanks:

- (a) Growers of woad in Europe saw \_\_\_\_\_ as a crop which would provide competition to their earnings.  
 (b) The demand for indigo increased in late eighteenth-century Britain because of \_\_\_\_\_.  
 (c) The international demand for indigo was affected by the discovery of \_\_\_\_\_.  
 (d) The Champaran movement was against \_\_\_\_\_.

Answer.

Answer.

- (a) Growers of woad in Europe saw **Indigo** as a crop which would provide competition to their earnings.  
 (b) The demand for indigo increased in late eighteenth-century Britain because of the **expansion of cotton production**.  
 (c) The international demand for indigo was affected by the discovery of **synthetic dyes**.  
 (d) The Champaran movement was against **indigo planters**.

3. Describe the main features of the Permanent Settlement.

Answer.

The Permanent Settlement System was a land revenue system introduced in 1793 by East India Company. Rajas and taluqdars were recognized as Zamindars to collect rent from the peasants and pay revenue to the Company. The main features of the Permanent Settlement system are:

- The amount paid by the zamindars to the company was fixed permanently
- The Rajas were made the zamindars
- Zamindars lost their right over the lands whenever they fail to make payments to the company

- d. Exorbitant prices of land which zamindars had to pay to the company (which they failed.)

#### 4. How was the mahalwari system different from the Permanent Settlement?

**Answer.**

Difference between Mahalwari System and Permanent Settlement are given below:

Mahalwari System	Permanent Settlement
Holt Mackenzie devised it and it came into effect in 1822	Permanent Settlement was brought by Lord Cornwallis in 1793
The epicentre of the system was a village	There was no such epicentre
Villages were called 'Mahal'	-
The estimated revenue of each plot within a village was added up to calculate the revenue that each village (mahal) had to pay	The revenue was fixed that each zamindar had to pay to the company
The revenue was to be revised periodically	Revenue was fixed
The charge to collect the revenue was on the village headman	The charge to collect the revenue was on the village zamindar (rajas/taluqdars)

#### 5. Give two problems which arose with the new Munro system of fixing revenue.

**Answer.**

The new Munro system of fixing revenue posed two problems:

- The revenue demand was fixed way too high for peasants to pay
- Peasants were unable to pay the rent which culminated into villages getting deserted.

#### 6. Why were ryots reluctant to grow indigo?

**Answer.**

The ryots were reluctant to grow indigo for the below-given reasons:

- They were paid very low-prices for it
- The ryots never saw any profit accruing from the indigo plantation
- Ryots were asked to grow indigo on the fertile parts of their land by the planters which they were apprehensive about

#### 7. What were the circumstances which led to the eventual collapse of indigo production in Bengal?

**Answer.**

The collapse of indigo production in Bengal was caused by the following circumstances:

- Ryots' denied producing the indigo anymore
- Protests started taking place by the peasants/ ryots supported by the zamindars
- Following the protests, the Indigo Commission was constituted by the government which accepted the faults of the planters and asked the planters to stop the cultivation.

- d. Planters eventually moved out of the city