

**DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMICS
DELHI SCHOOL OF ECONOMICS
UNIVERSITY OF DELHI**

Minutes of Meeting

Subject : B.A.(Hons.) Economics, Third Semester (2013)
Course : 09 – Economic History of India 1857-1947
Date of Meeting: 27th August, 2013
Venue : Department of Economics, Delhi School of Economics,
University of Delhi, Delhi – 110 007
Chair : Prof. Ashwini Deshpande

Attended by :

1. Aarti Makhija, Daulat Ram College
2. Kokila Meena, Satyawati College
3. Rakesh Kumar Singh, Ramjas College
4. Reena Devi, Kamla Nehru College
5. Saumyajit, Kirori Mal College
6. Kartikeya Kohli, Ram Lal Anand (Evening)

The following decisions were taken :

1. Teachers should take note that there are two changes in the reading list for this year. Two compulsory readings from last year's reading list are now recommended readings.
2. Guidelines for paper setting remain the same as last year: the maximum marks for the final examination would be 75, with the remaining 25 marks for internal assessment. Students should be asked to answer four questions in all. The paper should be divided into two parts. Part A would have three questions of 15 marks each, cutting across readings/sections in the reading list, of which students would be required to answer one. Part B would have six questions of 20 marks each of which students would be expected to answer any three.

Reading List

1. Colonial India: Background

- P. Parthasarathy, *Why Europe Grew Rich and Asia did not: Global Economic Divergence, 1600-1850*, Cambridge, 2011, Ch2, pp21-27, 46-50, Ch8, pp 224-226, 239-244, 251-262.

2. Macro Trends

- Population:
 - Sumit Guha: 'Mortality decline in early 20th century India', IESHR 1991 [Particularly pp 371-74 and 383-87 ; the pages in between, which involve Guha's critique of Klein, are to be de-emphasised for detailed reading and examination]
 - L. Visaria and P. Visaria, "Population" [only pp 487-489] in Cambridge Economic History of India (Vol.II) ed. By Dharma Kumar [Whereas pp 487-489 are essential reading for estimates of population growth in the census period the subsequent pages in this article can be used as a background reading by the teachers to provide the students an overall dimension of the demographic change]
- Labour force and Occupational structure
 - J. Krishnamurty, "Occupational Structure" in Cambridge Economic History of India (Vol.II) ed. By Dharma Kumar Chapter [Henceforth CEHI]
- National Income
 - Tirthankar Roy, *The Economic History of India 1857-1947* (3rd edition, 2011). Chapter 3 pp.80-89

3. Agriculture (land, labour, capital, technology, commercialization, famines and environment)

- Irfan Habib, *Indian Economy 1858-1914* (A People's History of India, Vol.28, Tulika 2006. Chapter 3 pp.51-74 (Sections 3.1, 3.2 and 3.3)
- Tirthankar Roy, *The Economic History of India 1857-1947* (3rd edition, 2011). Chapter 4, pp. 104-148
- Ira Klein, 'When Rains Fail: Famine relief and mortality in British India', IESHR 21- 2-1984
- Jean Dreze, *Famine Prevention in India* in Dreze and Sen (eds.) Political Economy of Hunger, WIDER Studies in Development Economics pp.13-35 (Sections 1.1 and 1.2)

4. **Railways and Industry** (Railways; The deindustrialization hypothesis; The rise of the modern industrial sector and the growth of entrepreneurship; Traditional industries; Supply of industrial labor)
 - John Hurd, "Railways", CEHI pp.737-761
 - P. Parthasarathy, 'Historical Issues of Deindustrialization in Nineteenth Century South India', in T Roy and Giorgio Riello (eds) [How India Clothed the World: The World of South Asian Textiles, 1500-1850](#) (Leiden: Brill, 2009), pp 415-435.
 - Rajat Ray (ed.) *Entrepreneurship and Industry in India*, Introduction pp.1-69, OUP, 1994
 - Tirthankar Roy (3rd edition, 2011) Chapter 6, pp 158-171
 - MD Morris, *Emergence of an Industrial Labour Force in India*, OUP 1965, Chapter 11, Summary and Conclusions pp.198-210
5. **Economy and State in the Imperial context** (The imperial priorities and the Indian economy; Drain of wealth; International trade, Capital flows and the colonial economy - changes and continuities; Government and fiscal policy)
 - Irfan Habib, *Indian Economy 1858-1914* (A People's History of India, Vol.28, Tulika 2006. Chapter 2 pp.23-34 (Sections 2.1, 2.2)
 - KN Chaudhuri, CEHI Chapter 10. *Foreign Trade and Balance of Payments* pp. 826-865, 869-877
 - BR Tomlison, *India and the British Empire 1880-1935*, IESHR Vol.XII
 - Basudev Chatterjee, *Trade, Tariffs and Empire*, OUP 1992, Epilogue

Recommended Background Readings:

1. L. Subramaniam, *History of India 1707-1857*, ch 4, pp 129-179
2. C. A. Bayly, *Indian Society and the Making of the British Empire, The New Cambridge Eco History of India*. Orient Longman, 1987, Conclusion, pp 200-206
3. Daniel Thorner, *Agrarian Prospect in India* Chapter 1, pp.1-13
4. A.K. Bagchi, "Deindustrialisation in India in the Nineteenth Century: Some theoretical implications", *Journal of Development Studies*, 1976 (pp. 135-145) [This reading should be used as an essential background to P. Parthasarathy's article in Section 4.]
5. Dharma Kumar, "Fiscal System", CEHI [only pp. 905- 939] This reading should be used as essential background to BR Tomlison, *India and the British Empire 1880-1935*, IESHR Vol.XII

The Background Readings are essential for teachers. Students are encouraged to read them for better comprehension though questions will not be set on these.