

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

**Minutes of Meeting**

Subject	:	B.A. (Hons) Economics – Sixth Semester (2014)
Course	:	25 – Comparative Economic Development : 1850-1959
Date of Meeting	:	10 <sup>th</sup> December, 2014
Venue	:	Department of Economics, Delhi School of Economics, University of Delhi
Chair	:	Prof. Ashwini Deshpande

**Comparative Economic Development**

**Course Description**

This course investigates selected issues in comparative historical perspective over the 19<sup>th</sup> century and the first few decades of the 20<sup>th</sup> century. The course focuses on a set of countries, which followed clearly diverse trajectories and patterns of growth to achieve their industrial transition and compares the outcomes of these diverse trajectories on sectoral change, intersectoral relations, labour processes and industrial relations and also compares the role of the state in facilitating the respective trajectories.

**Scheme of Examinations:**

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 question paper should be divided into two parts. Part A would have three questions of 15 marks each. Part B would have six questions of 20 marks each of which students would be expected to answer any three.

No direct question will be asked from Section 1 (introduction and overview) but the students need to go through the readings both for comprehension and contextualisation of the subject matter in the subsequent sections, which should find reflection in the answers they write.

**Course Outline and Readings:**

**1. Introduction and Overview of the countries selected for case studies**

**Britain:**

E.J. Hobsbawm (1968), *Industry and Empire: An Economic History of Britain since 1750*. Weidenfeld & Nicholson, Chs.1

**Japan:**

T. Nakamura (1983) *Economic Growth in Pre-War Japan*, Tr. by Robert A Feldman, Yale University Press, Ch. 1 (Overview of Growth)

**USSR:**

Paul R Gregory and Robert C. Stuart (1986), *Soviet Economic Structure and Performance*, Harper & Row (3rd ed) Ch.1

**USA:**

Hughes and Cain (1994) *American Economic History*, 4th Ed., HarperCollins College Publishers, Ch. 2 & 3

**2. Agriculture****Agrarian surplus and the role of the peasantry in economic development.****Britain:**

E.J. Hobsbawm (1968), *Industry and Empire: An Economic History of Britain since 1750*. Weidenfeld & Nicholson, Ch.5

Peter Mathias (1969), *The First Industrial Nation, An Economic History of Britain, 1700-1914*. 2nd edn, Methuen Chs.3 (Only Sections on Agriculture – “Landownership and change in rural society” and “Agricultural change”)

**Japan:**

Y Hayami (1975), *A Century of Agricultural Growth in Pre-War Japan: Its Relevance to Asian Development*. University of Minnesota Press, Chs. 1 and 3.

**USSR:**

Paul R Gregory and Robert C. Stuart (1986), *Soviet Economic Structure and Performance*, Harper & Row (3rd ed) Chs. 5 [Only the relevant section on agriculture (collectivization); The entire Ch.5 is to be covered across two subtopics 2 & 5 – Agriculture and State]

**3. Industry****The industrial revolution in Britain; Industrialisation in late industrialisers.****Britain:**

Peter Mathias (1983), *The First Industrial Nation, An Economic History of Britain, 1700-1914*. 2nd edn, Methuen Chs.5, 15

E.J. Hobsbawm (1968), *Industry and Empire: An Economic History of Britain since 1750*. Weidenfeld & Nicholson, Chs. 2, 3 & 6.

**Japan:**

T. Nakamura (1983) *Economic Growth in Pre-War Japan*, Tr. by Robert A Feldman, Yale University Press, Chs. 2, 3, 5 and 6.

**USSR**

Paul R Gregory and Robert C. Stuart (1986), *Soviet Economic Structure and Performance*, Harper & Row (3rd ed) Chs. 4

#### **4. The Factory System and Making of the Industrial Working Class:**

**Division of labour, structure of industrial authority, organisation of work and industrial production, relationship between workers and managers.**

##### **Britain:**

E.J. Hobsbawm (1984), *World of Labour: Further studies in the history of labour*. London Weidenfeld & Nicholson, Ch. 11

##### **Japan:**

Okochi, Karsh and Levine (1965), *Workers and Employees in Japan, The Japanese Employment relations system*, University of Tokyo, Ch.13

##### **USA:**

Hughes and Cain (1994) *American Economic History*, 4th Ed., HarperCollins College Publishers, Ch. 21

#### **5. The Role of the State in Industrial and Developmental Transition**

##### **Britain**

E.J. Hobsbawm (1968), *Industry and Empire: An Economic History of Britain since 1750*. Weidenfeld & Nicholson, Chs.12

##### **Japan**

Chalmers Johnson (1982), *MITI and the Japanese Miracle: The Growth of Industrial Policy 1925-1975*, Stanford University Press, Chs.1,9.

W.W. Lockwood (1966), *Economic Development of Japan*, Expanded edition, Princeton University Press, Ch.10.

##### **USSR**

Paul R Gregory and Robert C. Stuart (1986), *Soviet Economic Structure and Performance*, Harper & Row (3rd ed) Ch. 3, 5, 7 [Though Ch. 3 is formally placed in this section, yet its contents are crucial for all the subsections involving USSR. It should ideally be covered just after the overview before initiating the discussions on agriculture and industry. Ch.5 is relevant for the planning debate and structural change. As mentioned earlier, the rest of the chapter is relevant for section 2 - Agriculture]

##### **USA:**

Hughes and Cain (1994) *American Economic History*, 4th Ed., HarperCollins College Publishers, Ch. 7, Ch.18