

INSIGHTS

# Insights Daily Answer Writing Challenge - 37

All Answers

Insights

2013

## QUESTIONS: DAY – 37 (General Studies Paper – II)

1. "The American revolution was essentially an economic conflict between American capitalism and British Mercantilism". Critically examine. **(250 words)**
2. Bring out some positive and negative social consequences of Green revolution. How has Green revolution changed the rural social structure? **(250 words)**
3. Factors responsible for the location of steel industry in the Ruhr region **(100 words)**

## ALL ANSWERS

### 1. Ankit

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August 27, 2013 at 9:58 am

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Q.2 Bring out some positive and negative social consequences of Green revolution. How has Green revolution changed the rural social structure

Green revolution refers to the phenomenon in Indian agriculture when the yield of certain crops increased tremendously in a short span. Green revolution has been significant as it provided much needed self sufficiency in the food arena and relieving India's dependence on imports.

The revolution in its initial phase i.e. during 1960-1970's was focused on crops like wheat and rice and the basis was the new hybrid varieties, intensive use of fertilizers, irrigated farmland, pesticides etc. The basic prerequisite rendered its spread to relatively well developed areas and to economically powerful social classes.

The biggest social consequences came in by commercialization of the agriculture, which had positive ramifications of breaking of traditional

linkages between Zamindars and wage laborers and leading to emergence of 'free wage labor'. It led to mechanization to some degree which though did encroach on laborers job but also resulted in the rise of wages.

The revolution led to furthering the disparities both inter and intra region, where the dominant castes as they had the prerequisites and as a result they became further entrenched as their economic power grew, disparities occurred among regions also as where revolution took place i.e. Punjab, Haryana, western UP, southern India became more economically well off and some scholars even point to secessionist movement being as a result of new found economic superiority.

The impact of revolution has been far ranging and has also helped in furthering new economic opportunities, entry into higher education and demand for better healthcare etc yet the revolution failed to help the marginalized farming community and also has had an effect on the environment. Thus the shortcomings should be looked into and ameliorated upon in the second phase of green revolution.

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▪ **Ankit**

August 27, 2013 at 1:00 pm

@insight , @all : please review



## INSIGHTS

August 28, 2013 at 9:02 am

Good answer Ankit. Some points like effect of GR on rural women, cottage industries, and non agricultural labour was needed.

GR created agro industries and created a demand for rural masons, carpenters, weavers, tailors and improved the employment opportunities for this section of rural populace making them well-off in the long term. (Bipan Chandra – India Since Independence)

## 2. Vicky...

August 27, 2013 at 10:00 am

3. Factors responsible for the location of steel industry in the Ruhr region (100 words)

Answer:

Ruhr region, located on the Rhine Basin is the symbol of prosperity of Germany. The entire West Germany, popularly called West Falia, is a

reserve of abundant minerals . It provides every ingredient for the prospering of Steel Industry, which are –

1. Entire West falia is a reserve of all the required raw materials for steel production i.e. Iron ore, Dolomite , Limestone , Manganese etc.
2. The abundance of fresh water from R. Rhine provides impetus for steel manufacture.
3. The strong economy of Germany ensures adequate capital and technological resources .
4. Inland navigation through various canals provide for easy traction of required resources.
5. Cheap electricity due to high potential of hydropower and abundant Coal present throughout the country.

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▪ **Anjali**

August 27, 2013 at 1:14 pm

Vicky, very good answer.

▪ **Vicky...**

August 27, 2013 at 2:44 pm

Guys please reply

Insights

▪ **Pratibha**

August 27, 2013 at 6:47 pm

nice answer .....you can add market factor for steel(Dusseldouf-automobile hub and Hamburg knwn for shipbuilding industries)

**3. Siddhesh**

August 27, 2013 at 10:40 am

”The American revolution was essentially an economic conflict between American capitalism and British Mercantilism”. Critically examine.

Ans.

It was in 18th century when British drove France out of America and established it self as the sole colonial power there. America was divided into 13 colonies. North side was based on fishing and ship building and was undergoing industrialisation while south was based on plantation.

Indeed colonial policies were the cause of resentment among the Americans. It stopped growth of their economies and British parliament had forbidden them to use non-British boat to trade. They were also forbidden to start certain industries like of iron and textile and so were hampering their growth. During wars in Europe Britain put unbearable taxes on businessmen all these factors led to resentment against Britishers.

However only capitalist had problem with British saying it will be completely wrong. Britishers stopped expansion and buying of new land in west which angered the farmers. Inhumane conditions in mines where workers lived in subhuman conditions angered workers too. Middle class was too wasn't happy with their tax policies, "Boston Tea Party" is an excellent example of how some citizens raised their voice against Britishers. Finally the philosophers esp. Thomas Paine who talked and wrote about Fundamental Rights and build mass opinion.

To conclude it will be wrong to say that revolution was started by capitalists alone but was the culmination of various section of society which made the Revolution possible and to show world that imperialist too were vulnerable.

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- **Siddhesh**

August 27, 2013 at 10:41 am  
feedbacks?



- **INSIGHTS**

August 28, 2013 at 10:21 am

Some of legislations British passed that hurt wealthy in the colonies is missing.

#### 4. **athi**

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August 27, 2013 at 11:10 am

Green revolution was started in Mexico by Norman Borlaug. It has both positive and negative effects.

Green revolution introduces the use of high yielding seeds such as IR8. This increases the yield and reduce famine in the case of India. Green revolution uses more land for cultivation and introduces two and three crop pattern. This improves the status of peasants even small scale ones. Production also increases. Green revolution causes the introduction of new scientific methods of farming. Introduction of new agricultural equipments reduce the work load of the farmers. Thus improves the economic development of the country.

Green revolution causes problems in the genetic diversity of rice and wheat. Varieties which are commonly used are lost and farms are occupied with high yielding varieties. Increased use of chemical fertilizers and pesticides destruct the land quality. Water bodies were polluted with chemicals. Ground water level depleted as a result of exploitation. Weeds and pests increased.

Standards of rural society increases as a result of economic development. Along with economic development GDP also raised. Transport facilities and work culture changed. These changes brings positive impacts on the development of the country.

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**athi**

August 27, 2013 at 12:38 pm  
suggestions... please..

▪ **Anjali**

August 27, 2013 at 1:10 pm

athi, your answers have all the points but needs more, read Ankit's answer, u will get idea

▪ **athi**

August 27, 2013 at 1:44 pm

thanks for ur comment anjali...

## 5. **Awesome Possum**

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August 27, 2013 at 11:20 am

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The American revolution was essentially an economic conflict between American capitalism and British Mercantilism". Critically examine.

At the time of the American Revolution there was no "American" capitalism as there was no "America". There existed only British Mercantilism and its subject colonies. America was a territory serving the needs of the metropolis- just like India was. The Revolution then wasn't one of pure economics but a consequence of taxation without representation in the British Parliament. Fuel was added to this by local personalities which

became power centres unto themselves in America such as George Washington and Benjamin Franklin. The example of Thomas Paine and his pamphlet “Common Sense” must be mentioned here which became the largest selling book at that time. As Paine rightly argues in Common Sense; it was absurd for a heterogeneous continent to serve the needs of a homogenous island, especially without any representation or say in the way the money taxed from the colonies was spent. Further, it was pointed out that the British had no large armies on the North American continent to control the colonies by force. Once the armed revolution began, it took a mere eight years from 1775 to 1783 to achieve freedom for the colonies with the aid of other world powers interested in seeing the end of the British mercantile monopoly.



**INSIGHTS**

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August 28, 2013 at 8:57 am

During the American revolution, commercial capitalism was practised in the colonies. Industrial capitalism became a prominent feature in the early 20th century.

The question is about how British Mercantilism affected this ‘commercial capitalism’ in the colonies and led to a war. Though the pretext was ‘no taxation without representation’, the argument was put forth by the rich traders, merchants, plantation owners, politicians and bureaucrats who had amassed wealth in the colonies.

Series of legislations – products of mercantile policies of the British which suffocated colonies, eventually led to this revolution.

## 6. Maaduri

August 27, 2013 at 12:08 pm

3. Factors responsible for the location of steel industry in the Ruhr region (100 words)

Ruhr region is known for its location factors which attracted basic steel industry towards itself. The main factors include

I. Location of coal mining industry – Saxony coalfield, which is the basic and heavy raw material difficult to transport for steel industry.

II. Near coastal and the presence of Rhine and Ruhr rivers and canals was favourable for water transportation for trading and generation of hydro-electricity and provided enough water for cooling purpose in the production.

In addition to the above traditional reasons, the following are the reasons for its continuous presence in the region.

III. Dependent industries like automobile (Dusseldorf) and shipbuilding (Hamburg) developed around this region.

IV. Infrastructure, technology and skilled labour presence in the region.

## 7. sai

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August 27, 2013 at 12:19 pm

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Green revolution constitutes use of hybrid varieties, chemical fertilizers, mechanisation in agriculture to increase the productivity. Started in 1960 it helped india to become self sufficient in food grains. Along with changing the economic structure it also has changed the social structure of rural india in both positive and negative ways.

Incomes increased, because of the increase in income certain castes become dominant which were earlier not powerful. Hence new rural elite has emerged and they also became dominant in politics

Adopting this new technology is capital intensive and hence only the rich and big land owning farmers could adopt this. Because of this disparity between the rich and poor farmers grew. Hence it led to the inequality.

Because of mechanization, the laborers lost their jobs and it resulted in increase in poverty and marginalization of landless laborers

Agriculture became more commercialized. Cash crops replaced food grains and the product is sold in markets. It made farmers more prone to

economic shocks like inflation etc. The existing patronizing relation between landowners and tenants is also destroyed.

Though initially seen as a positive revolution, the negative aspects like loss of soil fertility, distress migration, increased inequalities are making people look for more sustainable second green revolution by learning from the first.

@insights and all please provide your valuable comments. What is the effect of not reaching the word limit 😞

## **RV**

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August 27, 2013 at 12:52 pm

Hi sai .. you could have mentioned names of some prominent scientists + specifics of negatives like ground water contamination , ill effects on health ( cancer study in Punjab ) and even for disparities you can give example ! As insights had said earlier writing within word limit is an art so donot worry about that. just donot miss points ! i think something more on social effects could be added but Insights would be a better judge so wait for his comments 😊

- **sai**

August 27, 2013 at 2:48 pm

Thank you RV for your comments. Ground water contamination , ill effects on health.. do they come under social consequences? If somebody could through light on what constitutes 'social consequences' it would be very useful.

**Anjali**

August 27, 2013 at 1:17 pm

Sai, u have mentioned many good points.

- **Asha Goud**

August 28, 2013 at 8:42 am

Good answer Sai.



August 28, 2013 at 8:45 am

Sai,

Good introduction.

In the third and fourth paragraph your argument is wrong. GR helped small landholders more in the long term increasing their productivity and clout within villages.

Mechanization did not displace or affect wage laborers.

Tractorization/mechanization increased cropping intensity hence led to more demand for labors. (both points are from Bipan Chandra – chapter on GR)

You have not explained how it affected rural social structure – which here, should be explained in terms of changed agrarian structure.

Not adhering to word limit is suicide in terms of less time for other questions and penalty from the examiner. If you write less but pack more, you will have an advantage.

## 8. RV

August 27, 2013 at 12:30 pm

Green Revolution ushered by the likes of Borlaugh , Swaminathan and others led to miraculous growth in the agricultural productivity .This was achieved using modern technology like the High Yielding seed varieties , chemical innovations of better farm suited fertilizers and insecticides and improved agricultural practices like sprinkler and drip irrigation .

Intensive cropping of the land and with reduced periods of maturity augmented the income of the farmers leading to rapid agricultural infrastructure development .New lines of credits for the farmers to avail the use of hybrid seeds, machinery and chemical inputs helped the spread of the revolution thus improving the food security situation of nations , ending famines and the doubts of Malthusian catastrophe.

However ruthless use of fertilizers and insecticides apart from burgeoning deficit also had adverse ecological impacts on ground water and led to , adverse health impacts , killing of symbiotic insects and overall land degradation and salinisation.

Due to the capital intensive input nature of new practices it hugely benefited the large scale farmers and created inter state and intra state disparities . Punjab and Haryana experienced exemplary development whereas farmers and poor households even today are not even food secure . It also advocated monoculture of rice and wheat which led to stagnation of other pulses , cereals leading to nutritional poverty.

Moreover it led to an increase in the absolute poverty and suicides due to the mechanisation and consequent labour loss , rural urban migration accruing to the slums is also on the rise .Increasing pressure for income on

marginal households led to further labour exploitation of women in the rural regions.

Ever Green Revolution is being advocated today to address ecological impacts and ensure food and nutrition security for all.

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▪ **Vicky...**

August 27, 2013 at 2:55 pm

Good Answer RV. covered all points.

Conclusion could have been better.

▪ **RV**

August 27, 2013 at 3:33 pm

Thanks Vicky Ya i know should have put in more effects on rural and concluded better !



## INSIGHTS

August 28, 2013 at 8:50 am

Starting from introduction, your answer nowhere focuses on rural sociology – its effect on rural social structure, women, relationship between landless laborers, small landholders and big zamindars.

Answer is more economic oriented.

## Asha Goud

August 28, 2013 at 8:46 am

RV the answer should have positive and negative social consequences.

You explained Green Revolution.

## 9. phani

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August 27, 2013 at 12:58 pm

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The American revolution was essentially an economic conflict between American capitalism and British Mercantilism”. Critically examine. (250 words)

Mercantile system was the major economic philosophy followed by the colonialists like the British until the philosophers like adam smith and david recardo came to the scene and proposed free enterprise.

Mercantilism is largely a state controlled foreign trade and amalgamation of wealth as bullion which according to smith would make the world capital stagnant.

British drove away the early colonialists ‘from the 13 colonies of north America and expanded their empire. The early settlers were landless laborers , peasants , artisans and plantation workers and new religious seekers. The south side has developed ship building industry and fishing, the north was mainly based on agriculture and plantation. During the course of time a new class of business man emerged in the colonies who were perceived by the British as detrimental to its economic interests in America.

So , they imposed heavy duties , taxes on production were increased to as high as 40 percent , trade restrictions were promulgated stopping the non British ships to sail in American waters . These measures angered the new business class influenced by the capitalist way of high investments, profit maximization with technology oriented development. They started questioning the moral authority of the British to impose their will on the people of the 13 colonies from which not even had a single representative in

its parliament.

A revolution broke out soon , landed at “Boston Tea party “ and new plethora of business men supported the war generals like George Washington and others which has ended with America declaring itself as an independent republic with inalienable rights to its people.

Hence the causes of American Revolution is essentially a tussle between the modern capitalism in its nascent stages which might have its origins in the protestant ethic as proposed by Weber and British mercantilism .

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- **Asha Goud**

August 28, 2013 at 8:52 am

Hi Phani, you explained mercantilism well.

I think you mixed up north and south. South had agriculture and slave labour.

The 2nd paragraph talks about they imposed taxes but its not clear who this they are.

Just a few things i wanted i point out. 😊

▪ **phani**

August 28, 2013 at 1:55 pm

thank you.

## **10. Anjali**

August 27, 2013 at 1:03 pm

American Revolution was a culmination of freedom struggle against conflict of economic interest between Great Britain and her colonies, and revolt against social and political system of that time.

One of the main cause of American revolution is the clash ideas and principles of Great Britain and American colonies. England's mercantilism and unrestricted power of British Parliament were hurting economic, social and political interest of American people. Middle class was politically awakened class who hated the colonial rulers and their special rights and facilities. They wanted to establish economic, social and political democracy in the colonies.

From the beginning British Govt did not interfere much to control the autonomy of colonies, but when the freedom of colonies was violated

through the imposition of various taxes, new laws like Navigation Laws, Trading Regulations, Industrial Regulations and the Sugar Act, Stamp Act, the wave of strong dissatisfaction erupted in the form of revolution.

There were no affection for England in the colonies due to heterogeneous population, differences of religion, class differences prevalent in England. Stability of life and contributions by education, journalists and thinkers developed the intellectual awareness among the people to fight against excessive cruelties of British.

Though AR fueled by immediate economic grievances reflected in Greenilles Policy, Rockingham's Declaratory Act, Townshed's Tax Project, Lords Norths's Tea Policy, and suppressing Laws of Lord North. But the American's were against the principle that was at the back of taxation and their indignation is reflected in the slogan 'No taxation without representation.' Economic, political, social, and religious forces worked together in American Revolution.

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**Anjali**

August 27, 2013 at 1:04 pm

Please Insights and others critically comment on my answer.

▪ **phani**

August 27, 2013 at 1:16 pm

anjali , i think u missed the questio.its not about AR but economic angle behind it. points are note worthy , structure good..dont get me wrong , thank you..

▪ **Anjali**

August 27, 2013 at 1:21 pm

phani i thought, u have to probe the statement in depth and conclude on that, as it says critically examine. let us get clarification from Insights, Insights please tell us what question expects. Thanks for your valuable comment.



## INSIGHTS

August 28, 2013 at 9:09 am

Till halfway your answer is good. To this question, we have to examine how mercantile policies of the British affected 'commercial capitalists' in the colonies. There was no industrial capitalism the one we have today.

So, the acts you mentioned affected merchants, traders and wealthy people in colonies, so you should explained how they affected different 'capitalist' classes. Otherwise structure is good.

### **Asha Goud**

August 28, 2013 at 9:02 am

Hi Anjali, your answer mostly has described the economic restrictions and related laws, still you have concluded that American revolution was result of political social religious and economic factors.

The others factors should have been given emphasis to justify the conclusion.

## 11. phani

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August 27, 2013 at 1:12 pm

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### 3. Factors responsible for the location of steel industry in the Ruhr region (100 words)

Ruhr region in Germany is situated in Rhine valley which has large deposits of coking coal. For the development of steel industry the essential ingredients are iron ore , coking coal , availability of other alloying elements to strengthen steel , cooling water , technology , man power, electricity, transport and market availability. Ruhr has most of the advantages. Rhine valley is rich in resources and Rhine river helps in water supply and internal navigation. The region is further supported by the Sweden with large amounts of iron ore deposits and cheap hydro electricity but no coking coal. It exports iron ore to Ruhr and imports pig iron at higher cost . Dusseldorf and Hamburg became major industrial hubs thanks to Ruhr valley. Ruhr valley is a symbol of German prosperity and is the main reason behind the brands like Volkswagen, Mercedes and Siemens etc.

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12.

**Sahil Garg**

August 27, 2013 at 2:13 pm

1) "The American revolution was essentially an economic conflict between American capitalism and British Mercantilism". Critically examine. (250 words)

Ans

America was a British colony in 1750s and colonization of America was marked by economic plunder of resources and disproportionate trade tariffs for the convenience and profit of British mercantile class. It was severely opposed by American capitalists who were not prepared to see their colony exploited for profit only.

Mercantilism as an ideology was based on restriction of production in colonies. This was questioned by capitalist class driven by the principles of free trade and open market with tariff reduction or equal treatment of goods. They also questioned the right of British parliament over economic policy formulation of America in the form of Townsend Duties Act and Sugar Act, in which Americans are not represented. They wanted British to acquire any American wealth in the form of grant.

In addition the seven years of war of Britain-French war came with heavy burden of debt on American economy with new taxes which led to increase in revenue demand and expenses on war efforts which was completely resented by merchant, traders and middle class.

Moreover the hatred among the locals over the luxuries and privileges enjoyed by British merchants and over exploitation of planters and their ever increasing debt helped the capitalists reign in farmers and petty bourgeoisie in their freedom struggle.

Hence it can be said that American Revolution was the product of discontentment of American capitalist class against the British mercantile policies which diffused to other sections of society culminating in final freedom for the country.

### 13. **Sahil Garg**

August 27, 2013 at 2:14 pm

2) Bring out some positive and negative social consequences of Green revolution. How has Green revolution changed the rural social structure?  
(250 words)

Ans

Green revolution is the process of increased production of food grains with the help of scientific interventions like HYV seeds, fertilizers and better agricultural practices like crop rotation and land use pattern. India embraced GR in 1960s but this transformation led to both normal and pathological strains on society.

GR not only contributed for economic prosperity but also helped in reduction of poverty, better living standards through increased wages, limited rural-urban migration and brought about a change in education pattern, access to better services like health. It was instrumental in breakdown of caste barriers which converged into class and mitigated the

famines and extreme hunger in the regions of GR.

However, on negative front, it led to development disparity between regions and subjugated south India accelerating a sense of alienation. It led to inter-intra regional rural migration. It also contributed for gender discrimination through better access to technology culminating into female foeticide. New health problems arose due to indiscriminate use of fertilizers and pesticides.

GR was instrumental in bringing change in the social, political and economic structure of rural society. Cooperatives movements helped in increased bargaining power of rural people. Rural middle class benefitting from GR evolved as a major stakeholder of democracy in India which subsequently led to decentralization through PRI, increased their decision making process and development of political aspirations. The family largely converged to household, caste to class and kind feudalism to capitalism with access to modern education.

Therefore, Green revolution has led to formation of new class forms and contributed for change in both economic and non economic structure of GR belt and larger society as well.

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▪ **sai**

August 27, 2013 at 3:01 pm

Dear Sahil very good answer. Positive and negative aspects are balanced and the answer has depth in it. Can you tell me the source/sources of your material? If you don't mind can you tell me if you are recalling the material from memory or referring some source before writing the answer? Thank you.

- **RV**

August 27, 2013 at 3:31 pm

Sahil great answer 😊 great points on the social impact ! how is this related to foeticide ?

- **Sahil Garg**

August 27, 2013 at 6:44 pm

It impacted Gender status because it led to great improvement of economic status which ultimately led to better access of modern

technology of sex selection and diagnosis a finally leading to sex determination consequently female foeticide.

## **Sahil Garg**

August 27, 2013 at 6:52 pm

thank you Sai. i do not rely on any source for most of the questions(80%). Sources if any are google (for 20%). but these are more of general questions. Basic understanding of conventional subject is must. My optional also helped me a lot. You can answer them without reading if u have read socio even once. Just try to think from different angles. i take generally 5 minutes to think about what i want to write and next 5-10 minutes to answer. the most important thing is to go according to the question. I generally do not answer the questions which i do not know. i read the answer of other people and then write it in the note book . like today's question on rhine rover or yesterday's question of israel.

- **prashant**

August 27, 2013 at 3:44 pm

Great Answer. Linking GR to PRI .....good!. Just on point is it increased decision making process or power.

- **Sahil Garg**

August 27, 2013 at 6:41 pm

It is process.. typing mistake. 😊 thank you

- **Sahil Garg**

August 27, 2013 at 6:54 pm

i mean power...again typing mistake....huh..!!!!

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- **ANKIT**

August 27, 2013 at 7:58 pm

Hey , answer is really nice but too much emphasis on caste to class is there in the answer, the GR infact made the intermediate caste more entrenched in the power structure, which has led to regional parties based on them, The rise of rural middle class is contentious as it still is place of 80% of indian poor and south indian sense of alienation? however really good flow and structuring

- **Sahil Garg**

August 27, 2013 at 9:13 pm

i did not emphasized on caste class relation except in two lines. Secondly i talked about the rise of political aspiration (read thoroughly) . Thridly south India in the sense that GR impacted mainly the northern region of haryana, punjab and western UP. Fourthly, it increased the wage labour to a great extent and ofcourse sociological studies talk about the rise of rural middle class( i am not comparing it with urban middle class)

- **ANKIT**

August 28, 2013 at 8:33 am

GR was also for coastal andhra and Tamil Nadu, The rice producing areas, though it marginally successfull owing to already high production levels as compared to North India and wage labour did increase but with loss of jobs also as mechanization started to kick in and migrant labour was used more often and exploitatively. + rise of political aspiration wsa for intermediate Caste not Class.The answer points to like caste has already been converted to class.

- **sapana**

August 27, 2013 at 7:41 pm

Hi,

In the very first line you mentioned Green Revolution as a process. Green Revolution is/ was not a PROCESS; it was a term coined by William Gadd for the phenomenal increase in the production of foodgrains(especially Wheat) in the late 1960s. The related programmes were IADP, IAAP and HYVP and the process implied was a complete package including HYV

Seeds, irrigation, fertilizers, pesticides, mechanization, credit facilities and others.

- **Sahil Garg**

August 27, 2013 at 9:19 pm

u mean to say GR happened over night? Ofcourse it is a process. every process's term is coined by someone. It is not important to mention facts like these because question does not ask what is GR but its impact.

- **Aditya**

August 27, 2013 at 11:56 pm

Hello Sahil,

In essence, a process involves abiotic elements, whereas a revolution involves biotic as well as abiotic elements. Although process is a generic term, which can well be applied to almost any phenomenon which is not short-lived. But, GR is called a revolution. If it was a

process, then perhaps the term “Green Process” would have been coined out.

- **Sahil Garg**

August 28, 2013 at 6:47 am

process is

- 1) Sequence of interdependent and linked procedures which, at every stage, consume one or more resources (business dictionary)
- 2) . A series of actions, changes, or functions bringing about a result (free dictionary)

But i will remove the controversial word. Thank You Adiyta

- **sapana**

August 28, 2013 at 9:20 am

Green Revolution was a phenomenon

## 14. tushar

August 27, 2013 at 3:18 pm

1. "The American revolution was essentially an economic conflict between American capitalism and British Mercantilism". Critically examine. (250 words)

The economic policies pursued by the British in the colonies of America were discriminatory in nature. These acted as blocks for development of free industry and trade in the colonies and gradually fuelled the resentment against the British which culminated in the form of American War of Independence.

The prime motive of British mercantilist was to develop American colonies as markets and sources of raw materials thus preventing them from developing an independent industrial base. The colonies were restricted from opening heavy industries like Iron and Steel which formed the backbone of any industrial base. In addition, there were restrictions on the colonists to expand westwards as these areas were reserved for British aristocrats.

Also the businessmen in colonies had to use English ships only to transport the goods. The tax structure followed by the home country was discriminatory and any good coming from Europe to America was additionally taxed in England. Stamp Duty act which gave the slogan "No

Taxation without representation” and the unjust taxes on tea resulting in the incident “Boston Tea Party” further caused grievances among the people.

Besides there were other reasons for the revolution as well. The colonies were resenting the rule by the British Parliament. They wanted to be governed by a body elected by themselves. This feeling got further push from the ideas and preaching of thinkers like Thomas Jefferson, Voltaire, Rousseau etc.

Thus the economic policies of British resulted fostering feeling of resentment in the residents of colonies. However, this resentment was united and channellized by the intellectuals who mobilized the people to rise against the British crown.

(266 words)

3. Factors responsible for the location of steel industry in the Ruhr region  
(100 words)

The Ruhr region is an important industrial region in the Western Germany. It got its name from the river flowing through it and is particularly famous for its iron and steel industry. Various factors have been responsible for this.

Firstly, the region is rich in iron ore, coal and limestone which are important ingredients of the iron and steel industry.

Secondly, canals and rivers like Rhine provide means of cheap and effective transportation. Also they were source of power.

Lastly, during the 1930's and 40's due to the rapid militarization under Hitler, the industries in this region got heavy push for the development of weaponry.

(105 words)

Insights, please review.

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▪ **tushar**

August 28, 2013 at 12:35 pm

Insights,

Please review.

Thanks,

tushar



**INSIGHTS**

August 28, 2013 at 12:57 pm

In the first answer, some explanation on American capitalism is missing. We have to explain how economic conflict between American capitalism and British Mercantilism led to the revolution. Who were the American capitalists? How British mercantilism affected them and led to war? You have answered the second part.

But your answer is very good given the lack of material on this topic.

## 15. **RV**

August 27, 2013 at 3:32 pm

British mercantilism aimed at plundering the rich resources of the 13 colonies of America and cripple the infant American industry was stiffly resisted by the American people. The Americans agitated against repressive mercantilist measures much before the First Continental Congress where the 13 colonies requested the King to remove trade and industry restrictions and not to impose taxes without consent which ultimately led to declaration of mutiny and the American war of Independence.

Americans had established shipbuilding and fishning industries in the North whereas South was primarily driven by planatations of sugar and tobacco . However they could only use British ships for trade and sugar tobacco could be exclusively traded with Britain. Neither they had the freedom of moving to flourishing western locations nor could they set

primary industries like iron and steel which they were forced to import Britain at dictated prices. This lack of freedom and imposition of taxes like Stamp Act , Sugar Act on them for which neither were they consulted by the British parliament nor were the taxes used for improving local socio-economic conditions led to much resentment amongst the Americans.

The Americans living in the Age of Enlightenment believed in universal fundamental rights as propounded by Milton , Harrington and Locke to determine their own economic and political interest . Moreover works like Common Sense by Paine made them question the powers of far off monarchies lording over their local interests. Hence when Stamp Tax gave way to Tax on consumer goods and repeated calls for “no taxation without representation” were not heede to it lead to the more rebellious Boston tea party ultimately culminating to the Continental Congress and American Revolution.

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**16. Vicky...**

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August 27, 2013 at 3:45 pm

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1. "The American revolution was essentially an economic conflict between American capitalism and British Mercantilism". Critically examine. (250 words)

Answer:

Being the colonial masters of America in 18th century, British promoted mercantilism exclusively to garnish their economic interests. The American capitalists were kept in a state as of 'parrot in his cage'. No American trade was possible except through British lines. This state of congestion led to revolution from the Americans.

The free trade and small tariffs as demanded by American capitalists were denied rather, in contrary, high duties were imposed over them. The open economy with proportionate taxes on every one, would have harmed the British mercantilism, as it believed in restricted production in colonies. Unrestricted control of British parliament, without any representation of Americans added fuel to the fire. Stringent and exploitative rules and regulations were imposed.

The rising middle class and capitalists in America also resented the growing riches and privileges enjoyed by their British counterparts. Unjust laws like Sugar act, Navigation regulations, production constraints etc were increasing anger in Americans. They questioned the authority of British government to impose such rules over them, even denying them any representation. New philosophers came into the party and advocated fight for their rights.

The conditions of mine workers, planters, labourers etc were inhuman and they were even aggravated due to the war debts, leading to taxes imposed on them. All these factors culminated into mass uproar which finally unmasked in the Boston Tea Party. American Generals were supported and American independence was advocated.

Thus we can say that economic conflict was the main force behind the American revolution.

## ▪ **Vicky...**

August 27, 2013 at 4:09 pm

2. Bring out some positive and negative social consequences of Green revolution. How has Green revolution changed the rural social structure? (250 words)

Answer :

Green revolution was the episodic reform which lead to India's self sufficiency in food production, limiting dependence on imports. It comprised mainly of , using improved quality seeds, effective fertilizers, mechanisation of work, better farm practices , better irrigation facilities and techniques. India's social structure comprised of traditional caste lines; relationship between farmers, moneylenders and zamindars . All this was disturbed and a new arrangement came into being.

Green Revolution provided food security to the country, productivity of crops increased, better wages were available to the farmers, wastage reduced due to pesticides and insecticides. The standard of many farmers improved significantly and resulted in their overall upliftment in all walks of life. Commercialisation of agriculture promoted cooperatives, elimination of middlemen , credit facilities added the work of a lubricant in their swift advancement. Hence we can say increased production and productivity of land contributed significantly to social life of people.

But this social revolution due to green revolution lacked equity . Although the traditional caste barriers where dismantled but new classes and sections emerged. The gap between rich and poor farmers widened. The new methodology demanded high investments , which hindered the progress of poor and marginal farmers. Some regions like Haryana , Punjab developed enormously and some regions lacked . Even intra regional equity did not come up.

Although the pace of modernisation was attractive but it lacked sustainability. Many health problems due to chemicals entering into the food chain started appearing. Environmental issues like degradation of groundwater, land, dependence of fertilizers rose quickly and other traditional but sustainable benefits started disappearing .

Hence although Green revolution led to political, social and economic upliftment of rural India but also had some grey areas which changed the structure of rural society.

**Vicky...**

August 27, 2013 at 4:10 pm

please review friends.

Insights 😊



INSIGHTS

August 28, 2013 at 1:05 pm

Environmental effects are not needed.

Good introduction.

**Aditya**

August 27, 2013 at 5:00 pm

Hi Vicky

It is a good answer. You have evaluated the consequences well enough.

Few suggestions:

You can save some precious words by avoiding environmental consequences from the answer.

## 17. Amudhan

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August 27, 2013 at 4:06 pm

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”The American revolution was essentially an economic conflict between American capitalism and British Mercantilism”. Critically examine. British Mercantilism and American Capitalist class is the primary contradiction which caused the war. After the ‘Seven year War’ in Europe ended in Europe Britain incurred heavy wartime expense which needed to be paid. The strategy to raise such revenue was through taxation of the colonies and trade surplus leading to an accumulation of Specie in Britain. The trade surplus was achieved through heavy taxation of imports from the colony making them uncompetitive and taxation of exports to other nations as well. Furthermore transport of the goods has to be in British ships. These served the twin purpose of filling the British coffers and protect its trade balance with the American colony. Direct taxation was achieved was achieved with the ‘Stamp act’ and the ‘Sugar act’ leading to the coinage of the famous phrase ‘no taxation without representation’. These acts were in direct contradiction to the landed capitalist class in America. Furthermore ‘life, Liberty and Property’ were considered inalienable rights as articulated by Locke.

After the war, the American society underwent a significant change to assimilate the contraction between the British crown and the American Capitalist class. Upon freedom from British colonial rule American society was reestablished with taxation power in a legislature, with the privilege of the vote belonging to the Landed and property holding sections. Property and its fruits were made the inalienable right of the owner and freedom of

commerce was also granted. The outcome primarily benefitted the landed gentry. Therefore the American war was essentially an economic conflict.



**INSIGHTS**

August 28, 2013 at 1:11 pm

Very good answer.

## **18. Aditya**

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August 27, 2013 at 4:54 pm

Day 37

Q2. Social consequences of the green revolution and changes in rural society..

Economic and social changes reinforce each other. Economic change in the traditional Indian agrarian societies was marked by Green revolution from the 1960s .It was an attempt to ensure enhanced food productivity by the use of hybrid seeds and other technological inputs.

The revolution witnessed partial success only in the northern regions of the country: Punjab, Haryana etc. For, the hybrid seeds required, inter alia, regular irrigation, fertilizers and pesticides. Availing these inputs in large rain-fed regions was often impossible for small and marginal farmers, especially in the eastern regions of the country.

Consequently, the eastern farmers of Bihar, Jharkhand fell behind economically from their counterparts in the North. This economic divide marginalised these poor farmers, a majority of whom were dalits and tribals. As a result, today these groups are the most vulnerable amongst all in India.

Also, women and children from the northern regions, being wealthy enough, could afford expenses on education and health, which was not the case in the east. So, these groups from both these regions show substantial variation on indicators of socio-economic well being.

A noticeable change in the rural society can also be observed post-green revolution. The wealthier farmers have been able to monopolise rural politics in the Panchayats Raj Institutions as well as in the state assemblies. One can see urban culture peeping into the rural societies and at the same time witness similar socio-economic deprivation as prevailing in the 1970s and 80s. In fact, the rural areas where the wealthier farmers reside do not look like rural India, if one overlooks the fields.

The green revolution has definitely changed the socio-economic and political equations in rural India by increasing the disparities among social groups both within and across states.

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▪ **Aditya**

August 27, 2013 at 5:12 pm

@insight: please rate this.

▪ **Asha Goud**

August 27, 2013 at 8:40 pm

Hi Aditya,

Your answer is not to the point. First you described interstate disparities, which is not asked. Then the answer did not clearly mention what were the changes in the rural society. The answer mentions that there is noticeable change (but what?) also that urban culture is peeping into rural societies, you should have focused on these points.

▪ **Aditya Jha**

August 27, 2013 at 11:34 pm

Thank you Asha. Very valuable suggestions that one needs to provide some evidence for justifying one's stand.

**19. Sunil**

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August 27, 2013 at 5:09 pm

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The colonial policy of England which is largely based on economic matters was the primary cause of resentment of American colonies.

They didn't allow to develop their own economy by restricting them in various scenarios like they are not allowed to use other ship than British, they can't set up industry related with iron and textiles, even highly import tax is imposed on goods from other places. So all in one we can say it was complete dominance.

In this way the capitalism is highly getting impeded by British. It aroused most when British in need of money imposed stamp Act on all business transaction of American.

In response to this resentment uprising occurred and colonies met in MASSACHUSETTES ASSEMBLY and declared no taxation without representation. This threatened British and the removed stamp act but imposed taxes on commodities like paper, glass, tea and paint.

But exploitative nature of British caused the people to be aroused again and they finally repealed taxes except in tea. BOSTON TEA PARTY in 1773 was an instance of revolution when unloading tea was refused and dropped in sea.

Above all circumstances led colonies to meet as PHILADELPHIA congress in 1774, appealed to British king to remove all taxes. By saying it a mutiny British fought with colonies. It was in July 1776 colonies met as 2nd Philadelphia and raised the revolt under the leadership of G. Washington and finally won in 1783.

It was clear picture of economic dominance of British Mercantilism on American capitalism which led to the American revolution.

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• **Sunil**

August 27, 2013 at 5:27 pm

Insights and others kindly rate this answer.

## 20. vipul

August 27, 2013 at 7:39 pm

1. Bring out some positive and negative social consequences of Green revolution. How has Green revolution changed the rural social structure? (250 words)

Green revolution was introduced in 1960s in India to ensure the food security and address the issues of Malnutrition. Green revolution introduced the concept of the high yielding seeds, use of fertilizers & heavy use of irrigation in to Indian agriculture.

After decades of Green revolution strategies, it is a fact that green revolution could succeed to make India, a food secure nation but its benefits had been uneven across geographies and social classes. Growth in production led to rise in the disposable farm income which had positive impact on health and education parameters in agriculture society. Growth in production of cereals Rice & wheat made the food cheaper and affordable for poor. Some of the small farmers came together in cooperatives and started commercial production which raised their economic status.

Indian rural society is widely divided in majority, small land holders and minority large farmers. Green revolution required an upfront investment in high yielding seeds, fertilizers, new farming machinery etc. which small farmer could not afford in the absence of government support. Green

revolution increased the income disparity in the rural society. Small farmers had to buy seeds, fertilizer and machinery on credit and in absence of insurance of crop failure, they got trapped in the debt.

Green revolution changed the traditional ways of agriculture. New way of agriculture required negotiation with technical experts for soil testing, irrigation etc. and government authorities for fertilizers, seeds etc.

Participation of younger generation increased in decision making. Rural society dominated by large farmers was challenged by dynamic & educated middle class farmers. Increasing use of technology led to large scale migration of Land less laborers and small farmers to semi urban/urban areas. Over-use of water required for HYV exhausted the water resources and led to more polarization in rural society over control of resources.

## 21. vipul

August 27, 2013 at 7:45 pm

”The American revolution was essentially an economic conflict between American capitalism and British Mercantilism”. Critically examine

American Revolution was a political movement in second half of 18th century when 13 of British colonies decided to part away from British Empire. These colonies later combined to become unites states of America

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During 18th century, British government followed the policy of Mercantilism to control the foreign trade in its colonies. Following their mercantilism policy, British government imposed several laws (Molasses act to control the import of molasses from other nations, navigation act to prevent ship built outside British Empire to trade with its colonies, higher taxes on imports ,sugar act etc.) on its colonies in America. British government also imposed restriction on the export, under which certain good could be exported to Britain only.

During 18th century, America was undergoing through two revolutions (political & economic) at the same time. American had been manufacturing their own goods, owned land and traded with other countries since 1700 .American had prospered due to individualism & less government interventions(important dimensions of capitalism). Ideas of Adam Smith that production would increase manifolds if individual were allowed to pursue their self-interest without government intervention influenced the economic circle to demand for more autonomy. Wave of protests were rising due to increasing trade restrictions placed upon the colonies by the British For ex: When British Imposed the high tariffs on Tea and fearing that tariff hike might ruin their business; American tea merchants formed a Boston Tea party to oppose it.

It is estimated that only one-third of the colonists were in favor of rebellion and One-third were loyalist to the British. Overall struggle was not for political or constitutional reforms. It was in protest over colonial policies to control the trade in tea & sugar etc. and manipulate currency which was increasingly becoming a threat for the survival of American capitalism.

**22.**

**vipul**

August 27, 2013 at 7:46 pm

1. Factors responsible for the location of steel industry in the Ruhr region (100 words)

Ruhr region is one of the largest metropolitan region of western Germany lying between river Lippe and Ruhr. Both the rivers are tributaries of German main river Rhine.

In 19th century Ruhr region grew in to hub for steel industry due to easy availability of coal which was a heavy raw material required for heating purpose in steel industry. Because a large quantity of coal was needed in steel industry, coal site in Ruhr was main attraction for steel industry. Iron ore used to be imported from Lorraine region in neighboring France. Canals and rivers Rhine supplied the water, power and cheap & faster means of transportation to rest of the Europe.

Over a course of time, Ruhr status as steel industrial hub has declined due to resources exhaustion and lower cost steel supply available from other regions.

## 23. **sapana**

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August 27, 2013 at 8:05 pm

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Q1. "The American revolution was essentially an economic conflict between American capitalism and British Mercantilism". Critically examine. (250 words)

The American colonists led by the emerging middle class – inspired by the ideas of liberty and equality – were increasingly becoming aware of the economic misgovernance of their mother country. They were highly critical of the revenue collection policy of the Britain and were against any colonial exploitation for profit purpose only.

Britain, on the other hand, riding on the wave of mercantilistic ideology imposed many restriction on the production in American colonies. This move further angered Americans who were supporters of open market and free trade. They started asking for greater autonomy.

However, apart from mercantilism many other factors played their part in growing differences between the two countries. The Stamp Act passed by the British parliament which seek to tax legal documents and certain other items didn't go down well with the Americans. They claimed that they have exclusive right to tax themselves and demanded greater representation in the British parliament. 'No taxation without representation' was their demand. Britain tightened its grip by passing Declaratory Act claiming all power to legislate for colonies. This was followed by other measures like

retention of tea tax and Intolerable Act without the consent of the colonials. Boston Tea Party as it was historically known was the response of the Americans.

The growing discontent of the americans were fueled by the works of political thinkers who justified resistance to mother country in the colonies. The republican political ideas of liberty advocated by the Commonwealth Men came as fresh breeze that intensified the fire within the American society and culminated in the glorious American Revolution.

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## **24. Evika**

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August 27, 2013 at 8:14 pm

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1. "The American revolution was essentially an economic conflict between American capitalism and British Mercantilism". Critically examine. (250 words)

Mercantilism as an economic doctrine was prevalent in Britain from the 15th until the 19th century. Some of its characteristics include bullionism, where gold and silver defined the health of nation. It meant high tariffs on imported manufactured goods (from rival traders-Dutch and Spain) and low tariff on imported raw materials (from colonies). Each nation tried to achieve economic self-sufficiency and the state played a regulatory role. It believed trade is a zero-sum game and the global wealth is fixed.

Mercantilism was imposed on the colonies, by the British, through Navigation Act, Staple Act and Restraining Act.

The system helped the British colonies by protecting their goods from foreign competition and through rent-seeking by way of subsidies for exporting certain products. It helped Britain by expanding their merchant fleet, maintaining a positive balance of Trade.

In spite of the advantages, colonies revolted, not because they had to pay taxes; instead, it was having no say in the amount and on what way they would be taxed. David Ricardo, David Hume and Adam Smith's theories challenged mercantilism where he said that wealth is not fixed, bullion are commodities too and don't need a special attention and restrains competition. The free market economic theory appealed to the colonists. It served as a major irritant leading to American Revolution. Heavy taxation led to smuggling of exports from American colonies to Netherlands. As it involved individual profits, the government agents allowed this trade, which made colonials distrustful of British. They realized that it was easy to break British laws. With the people acknowledging the rising corruption and inefficiency, there was American Enlightenment, which served as a precursor to the Revolution.

Hence, the rise of capitalism against mercantilism was a major force behind the American Revolution.

▪ **RV**

August 28, 2013 at 8:43 am

Evika i think you stressed more on defining mercantilism rather than explaining how it lead to clashes and eventual revolution..

▪ **Evika**

August 28, 2013 at 2:56 pm

I agree. Had thought of eliminating the first para earlier.

Though I tried to explain the 'how' and 'why' of the revolution in the later paras. Would try to re-write if its not making much sense. Can you mention some additional points?

Thanks for the review!

## Asha Goud

August 27, 2013 at 8:20 pm

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”The American revolution was essentially an economic conflict between American capitalism and British Mercantilism”. Critically examine.

A: Industrialisation and expansion of trade in England led to large scale out migration to the newly discovered land of America in 16th century. By 18th century 13 colonies were established in North America. The population in these colonies consisted of peasants, traders, merchants and slaves brought from Africa.

The land and industries in American colonies were owned by aristocrats and industrialist in England. The people of colonies were denied rights to decide economic activity, trade and administration. Trade and industries in American colonies was regulated by the English Parliament.

The English government started to divert the revenue earned from these colonies towards wars it fought with French and Indians. Also new laws were enacted to increase the levels of taxes and duties on trade with America. The Stamp Act was one such act where tax was imposed on all business transactions. All consumer goods imports in America were heavily taxed. Industries too suffered in America as raw materials were exported and manufactured goods were imported. The colonist therefore realized that they were exploited at expense of development and expansion of colonial empire of England.

Merchants and traders who suffered heavily from trade restrictions gathered support and formed the Continental Congress. Their demand was

to remove restriction on industries & trade and English Parliament should not have right to impose any taxes without consent of the colonies.

The demands of the colonist were purely economic in nature even though they are said to be inspired by writings of liberal and humanitarian thinkers and philosophers of that time who advocated ideals of equality, liberty and freedom. The Declaration of Independence that was adopted at the Second Continental Congress in July 1776 contained all these liberal ideas. However after independence these ideals were followed only in breach as equal rights were denied to women, negroes and native Americans.

Bring out some positive and negative social consequences of Green revolution. How has Green revolution changed the rural social structure?  
(250 words)

A: The Green Revolution initiated in India in 1960s was a result of food scarcity, inability to feed the large population and large food import bill. Therefore Indian government formulated a long term solution in the form of Green revolution i.e. modernization of agriculture. Mechanisation, use of hybrid seeds, fertilizers and manure and expansion of irrigation led to an increase in agricultural productivity. Subsistence level agriculture was transformed into commercial agriculture. Our traditional rural society too underwent transformation with spread of green revolution. Therefore it is important to study social transformation of rural society in addition to the economic impact of green revolution.

The increase in productivity led to increase in income levels for farmers and increase in rural prosperity. As agriculture became commercial, the interaction between rural people and urban people increased also rural India emerged as an untapped market for consumer products. As a result

people in villages got exposed to rational, scientific and liberal approach. The traditional rigid patriarchal society absorbed these ideas and became flexible to a certain extent. Blind faith, black magic and strict religious rituals were now put to scientific scrutiny.

Green revolution had negative impacts too. Mechanisation and modernization of agriculture being capital intensive could not be afforded by small farmers. This resulted increase in inequality in rural society. Mechanisation also left many landless agricultural labourers unemployed, who were forced to migrated to cities. As a result of dissemination of liberal values in villages, a section of people emerged who in the name of protecting traditional ways adopted radical and violent methods, for example the Khap panchayats. Thus the Indian villages now exists a contrast of values and ideas which leads to conflicts.

Thus Green revolution had a major impact on the tradition rural society

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▪ **Aditya**

August 27, 2013 at 11:47 pm

Hi Asha,

Good points:

The answer has been structured well while maintaining a good flow of

thoughts within the prescribed word limit. The points on rational thinking, migration and urban exposure are good.

Suggestions:

1. The introduction has gone explaining green revolution in about 60-70 words. The introduction is a pointer to your body and need not necessarily explain all the basics of the topic. I believe it can be curtailed so that the theme can be elaborated well.
2. Other dimensions could also have been mentioned, e.g. impact on women, socio-political domination etc.
3. The conclusion could be made better.

▪ **Asha Goud**

August 28, 2013 at 9:10 am

Thanks Aditya, i agree fully with you pointed out. 😊

Keep reviewing.

August 28, 2013 at 12:56 am

2) Bring out some positive and negative social consequences of Green revolution. How has Green revolution changed the rural social structure? (250 words)

Green revolution started in 1967-68 under guidance of S. Swaminathan is considered one of the most successful Govt.'s strategy. But in long run it has shown more destructive consequences than productive result in initial period.

G- revolution had saved India from food scarcity with increased agricultural growth rate 3% to 5% making India self sufficient in food grain and improved condition of financial condition of farmers. Being most of the workforce dependent upon agriculture, it created greater employment opportunity and reduced tendency of migration of farmers towards other jobs. G-Revolution being dependent on four inputs of high yielding variety seed, Machine, fertilizer and pesticides, assured water supply transferd traditional agricultural to modern technology oriented agriculture. It opened the door of further agricultural research through establishment of new agricultural university.

But all these rosy picture continued to appear pale in long run. Due to over utilization of land and fertilizer, land fertility reduced leading to diminished production. Over utilization of water reduced the level of ground water leading to desertification. Over utilization of pesticides polluted land and river water. Crop diversity reduced because rice and wheat cultivation became more profitable. It was concentrated mainly in Northern India and

coastal south. So it increased inter and intra regional disparity. It also increased the gap between rich and poor farmers.

When its impact on rural society is considered, its broad objective becomes futile. It developed the condition of land lord and worsened the condition of small farmers. Most of the small farmers lost their land on the name of land consolidation. With deregulation of tenancy reform, land lords over exploited tenants and seeing agriculture profitable started personal agriculture. Rich farmers became richer and poor became poorer. It increased case of farmer suicide. Caste system became more rigid. It increased conflicts between land lords and small farmers and problem of naxalism. As agriculture is labour intensive sector, it had increased son preference resulting female feticide.

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## 25. Manish

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August 28, 2013 at 1:17 am

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Q) The American Revolution was essentially an economic conflict between American capitalism and British Mercantilism

A) In American Revolution (1776-81), it was a confrontation between “Settlers” and the British Empire for freedom. It was different than other revolutions as “Native Citizens” were not in the mainstream of this freedom struggle and the factors were more economical than political or social.

Till the French and Indian wars (1763), American colonies in a sense were left free to run themselves (By Europeans who settled in America). The promise of an expensive but untamed continent gave all settlers a sense of freedom and ability to start fresh in new world. During this period funding of wars had created huge liquidity thus rapid inflation.

But just after the war, British Empire started replenishing its treasury by

- o Putting larger tax burden on colonies like Sugar Act, Stamp Act etc

- o Tightened the regulations by forbidding local currency (Currency Act, 1764), imposing restrictive shipping policy (Navigation Act) and bearing the cost of armies (Quartering Act)

These measures were resultant of outgrown relationship between governments and mercantile class. The purpose of these policies was to build a wealthy and powerful state by favoring interest of merchants who funded the military strength.

But these policies led the recession in American colonies. Also the tax impositions and regulations further deepen the recession. This had united all 13 colonies of America to revolt against these policies. Their desire to start afresh in a free country channeled this struggle and in 1781, American freedom was accepted by British Empire.

This revolution was the birth-mark of modern capitalism- a social system which is founded upon individual rights.

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## 26. kalyani

August 28, 2013 at 4:27 am

Bring out some positive and negative social consequences of Green revolution. How has Green revolution changed the rural social structure?

The concept of green revolution had its origin in Mexico in the 1940's. Father of green revolution is Norman Borlaug, an American agriculture scientist. He researched on developing high yield varieties of wheat grain, which is pest resistant. Thus he came out with some varieties and tested on Mexican soil. It was a huge success.

Because of Mexico's success in such high yield varieties of seeds, other African and Asian countries also turned into such seeds. It was a success in Asian countries as well and it helped India to manage the famine in the 1960's and India's import of food grains also drastically reduced. Successful stories of India and other countries prompted more third world countries to try such seeds.

Though it is a fact that green revolution brought many positive results, one cannot make a deaf ear towards its negative aspects. High yield variety seeds are something which artificially developed with some specifications. It uses chemical fertilizers, pesticides and so on, which affects the natural element of soil. Also large scale irrigation is needed. So, from a traditional style of agriculture, it moves towards an industrial style of agriculture. Also, farmers were stuck with some particular high yield variety seeds. This led to the loss of many indigenous varieties of seeds developed by farmers across the world. In the long run, such high yield seeds lead to the low yield of

agriculture products as soil became good for nothing with increased use of fertilizers and pesticides. This phenomenon started to appear in many countries and they are forced to use more fertilizers and pesticides. So green revolution style farming is not ecologically sustainable and we have to find out some alternate option to tackle this issue.

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▪ **kalyani**

August 28, 2013 at 12:34 pm

please review

## 27. Shweta

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August 28, 2013 at 1:56 pm

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Bring out some positive and negative social consequences of Green revolution. How has Green revolution changed the rural social structure? (250 words)

The path of Green Revolution (GR) chosen by developing nations in 1960s for improvement of their farm productivities produced a myriad of consequences, both intended and unintended. The strategy was characterised by the use of HYV seeds, fertilisers, pesticides, farm mechanization, controlled irrigation conditions.

The GR went a long way in improving crop yields and food production thus belying the threat of a Malthusian catastrophe and improving food sufficiency of nations. Increased yields led to growth in farm incomes, lower food prices, increased food availability and consequent poverty reduction. Use of shorter duration crops permitted multiple cropping patterns, thus allowing round-the-year farm incomes. Farm mechanisation reduced labour input on the part of farmers, thereby allowing them to diversify their income source by employing in side-activities.

All the benefits of GR came at its own cost to the environment, due to indiscriminate use of chemical inputs, ground water which led to salinity, water table depletion and contamination, growth in pest resistivity etc. Due to more emphasis on irrigated areas in the first phase of GR, it led to inter-regional disparities. Technology often bypassed poor because of inefficient credit and marketing policies thus distorting further, the poor-rich gap,

thus Increasing rural to urban migration. While it helped eliminate hunger it did not alleviate micronutrient deficiency.

The growth of middle and rich farmers at the cost of poorer ones, which developed a political clout in due course of time. Improved incomes led to better access to education, health facilities and thus better rural living standards. Growing awareness led to formation of SHGs and better inclusion of the poor classes and women empowerment. While it was not the technology per se, but wrong policies which led to unintended effects, a GR 2.0 which is on the cards must be planned wisely to avoid the avoidable negatives of first GR.

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**28.**            **Sahil Garg**

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August 27, 2013 at 12:51 pm

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I think you also only supposed to mention social consequences. though u included even ecological implications also. Impact on rural ‘structure’ (second part of the question) – not explained.

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29. **Avik**

August 28, 2013 at 1:09 am

Insights kindly comment on my answer. Is it necessary to give separate introduction and conclusion for each part of question? Kindly describe how to give introduction and conclusion when two parts are there in same question.

30.



**INSIGHTS**

August 28, 2013 at 10:26 am

Avik,

You have to club both parts of the question and give a single introduction. Both parts are related to rural sociology. The introduction you have given doesn't address the question.

**31. kalyani**

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August 28, 2013 at 12:36 pm

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Yes Sahil, I completely forgotten that part. Will check it for next questions

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