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**Ruling the Countryside**

Q1. What changes came in the company as it got the right of Diwan?

Ans. As Diwan:-

The Company became the chief financial administrator of the territory under its control.

Now it had to think of administering the land and organizing its revenue resources.

This had to be done in a way that could yield enough revenue to meet the growing expenses of

the company.

A trading company had also to ensure that it could buy the product it needs and sell what it

wanted.

Q2. Why did ruling the countryside become a necessity?

Ans Over the years the company also learnt that it had to move with some caution. Being an alien

power, it needed to pacify those who in the past had ruled the countryside, and enjoyed authority and

prestige. Those who held local power had to be controlled but they could not be entirely eliminated.

The British wanted to collect the more revenues and they also wanted to show that they were

paramount.

Q3. Why did the need to improve the agriculture in Bengal arise?

Ans. The need to improve the agriculture in Bengal arise as it was felt that

This would ensure a regular flow of revenue into the company’s coffers and at the same time

encourage the zamindars to invest in improving the land.

Since the revenue demand of the state would not be increased the zamindars would benefit from

increased production from the land.

Q4. Why was there demand of Indigo in Europe?

1. British cloth dyers, however, preferred indigo as a dye Indigo produced a rich blue colour,

whereas the dye from woad was pale and dull.

2. By the seventeenth century, European cloth producers persuaded their government to relax the

bam on indigo import.

3. The French began cultivating indigo in St. Domingue in the Caribbean islands, the Portuguese in

Brazil, the English in Jamaica, and the Spanish in Venezuela. Indigo plantations also came up in

many parts of North America.

4. By the end of the eighteenth century, the demand for Indian indigo increased its existing supplies

from the West Indies and America collapsed for a variety of reasons. Between 1783 and 1789 the

production of indigo in the world fell by half. Cloth dyrs in Britain now desperately cooked for

new source of indigo supply.

Q5. How else did the British use the countryside from other than collecting revenue?

Ans. The other ways were:-

· They forced the artisans to sell their goods to the company at low prices.

· Peasants were forced to pay dues that were being demanded from them.