



Dr. Jayachandran's

INSTITUTE FOR CIVIL SERVICE EXAMS

SOUTH INDIA'S PREMIER INSTITUTION FOR
PUBLIC POLICY AND CIVIL SERVICE EXAMS

HISTORY

WWW.jcsias.com

Ph: 93619 21011

BRITISH AGRICULTURE POLICY IN INDIA

Permanent Settlements

Ryotwari Settlements

Mahalwari Settlements



BRITISH AGRICULTURE POLICY IN INDIA

India was and is an Agriculture based Economy in terms of population employed.

During British time India's national income, foreign trade, Industrial expansion and other economic activity (like textiles) were heavily based on Agriculture.

Any change in Agriculture policy had enormous consequences.

British were only interested in Revenue maximization and not on Indians welfare. Revenue Administration policy practised was replaced by Revenue collection.

Three types of Revenue collection followed by British are

Permanent Settlements

In Bengal, Bihar, Benaras, Areas of North Western province and Orissa. Covered 19% of then India.

Introduced in **1793**.

Introduced by Lord Cornwallis with Sir John shore and James Grant.

Here the basic unit of Settlement was Zamindars / Intermediaries

- * Before this settlement annual leasing to highest bidder was introduced by Warren Hastings.
- * Introduced as 10 year (decennial) settlement – Average of ten years gain as scale of measure for every year. The values were fixed.
- * Later Decennial was made as continuous assessment.
- * Government now accepted Zamindars as owners of land.
- * Was based on the idea of Lord and Serfs (Serfdoms) practised in Europe. This idea destroyed the land rights of ryots.
- * Zamindars were required to collect tax.
- * This tax (i.e, share) was divided into 11 parts of where 10/11 (fixed) was the share of Government and 1/11 was Zamindars share.
- * If Zamindars paid taxes no problem for them. This made zamindars not care about peasants and made them ruthless.

Merits

- * British succeeded in creating Political allies and financial security
- * Minimum expenditure on revenue collection



- * They believed in immediate increase in agriculture production

Defect

- * Resulted in severe suppression of peasants.
- * Ryots traditional right to land taken away and were made tenants.
- * Hereditary Zamindars were alienated. The value fixed was very high.
- * Zamindars rights of Administration and Judicial destroyed.
- * British later realised as the share were fixed they could not gain from any increased production.

Ryotwari Settlements

In Madras, Bombay, Assam, Burma and Coorg. Covered 51 % land.
Introduced in 1820.

Introduced by Lord Munro recommended by Charles Reed.

Here the basic unit of Settlement was Ryots or Peasants.

- * Peasants were accepted as Land owners, revenue fixed for 20 to 40 years.
- * Direct payment of revenue to government by peasants. No eviction until revenue paid in time.

Merits

- * Peasants were recognised as land owners, this led to huge social development later that can seen even till date.
- * Absence of Zamindars and any intermediaries.
- * For British now they could have share in production

Defects

- * Land Revenue fixed was very high.
- * Government had the right to existence at its own will
- * Ryot was obligated to pay tax even during famine and drought.
- * Position of Zamindars were taken by oppressive state. Harsh measures for non payment.

Mahalwari Settlements

In Punjab, central provinces and parts of North western provinces.

Introduced in 1833.

Introduced during Lord William Bentinck, recommended by Lord Molt Mackenzie.

LIVE / ONLINE

CLASSES AVAILABLE

For UPSC - CSE

“Crack UPSC with Expert
guidance from South India's
leading UPSC Mentors”

Full Syllabus
Guaranteed Results
National level Mock test
Comprehensive Study Material

TO KNOW MORE:

www.jcsias.com

Ph: 93619 21011



Dr. Jayachandran's
INSTITUTE FOR CIVIL SERVICE EXAMS
SOUTH INDIA'S PREMIER INSTITUTION FOR
PUBLIC POLICY AND CIVIL SERVICE EXAMS

Here the basic unit of Settlement was Mahal or Village.

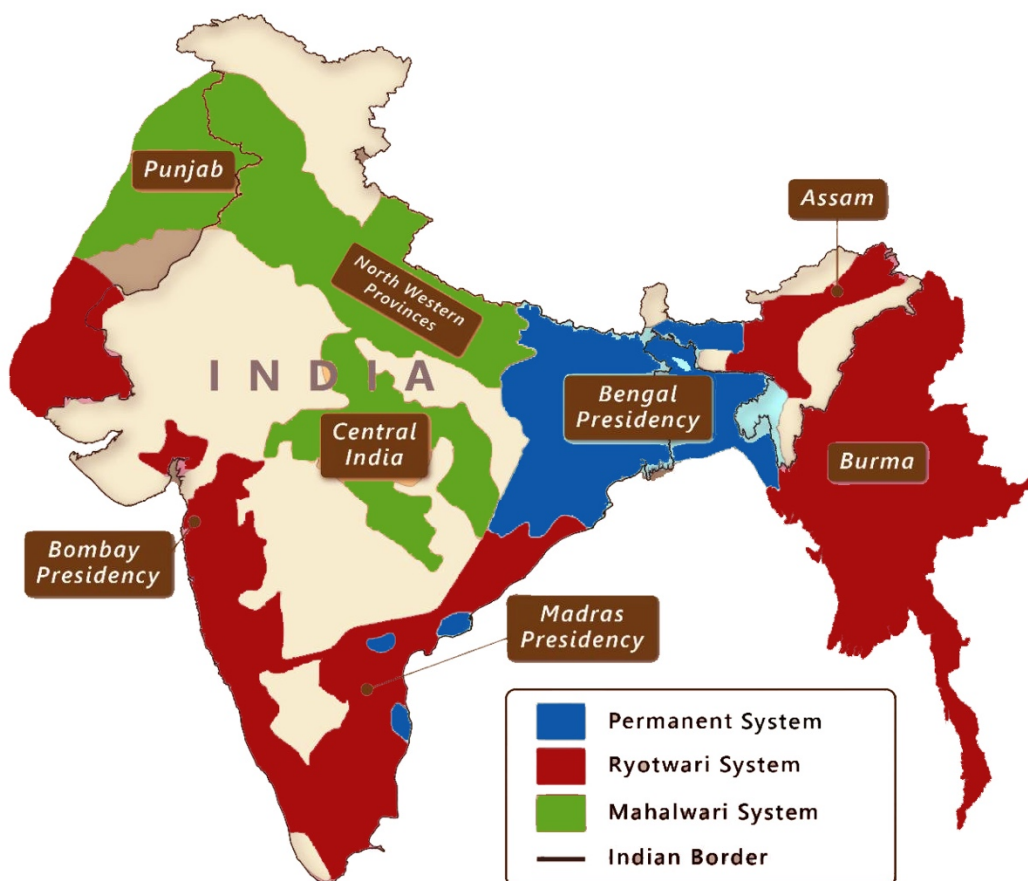
- * Village community bonding was used and a village was collectively responsible for the revenue that was fixed.
- * Obligation of collection was on Village headman.

Merits

- * Eliminated any middlemen possible.
- * Developed village conscious and led to social development later.
- * Village community now collectively constructed on Irrigation facilities etc.
- * Repression was not harsh.

Defects

- * Sometimes Village headman became law giver and administrator.
- * Even here revenue was huge and so complete village moved out instead to pay revenue.



FOR MORE CONTENTS:
www.jcsias.com

LIVE / ONLINE

**CLASSES
AVAILABLE**

For UPSC - CSE

"Crack UPSC with Expert guidance from South India's leading UPSC Mentors"

Full Syllabus
Guaranteed Results
National level Mock test
Comprehensive Study Material

TO KNOW MORE:

www.jcsias.com

Ph: **93619 21011**



Dr. Jayachandran's
 INSTITUTE FOR CIVIL SERVICE EXAMS
 SOUTH INDIA'S PREMIER INSTITUTION FOR
 PUBLIC POLICY AND CIVIL SERVICE EXAMS