

## COMMON POOL OF DISCIPLINE SPECIFIC ELECTIVE (DSE) COURSES for 3<sup>rd</sup>, 5<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup> Semester

### Discipline Specific Elective 1 (DSE-1): Economic History of India

Semester	Course title & Code	Credits	Duration (per week)			Eligibility Criteria	Prerequisite
			Lecture	Tutorial	Practical/ Practice		
III/V/VII	Economic History of India – ECON031	4	3	1	0	Passed Class 12th	NIL

#### Learning Objectives

The Learning Objectives of this course are as follows:

- This course analyses the key aspects of Indian economic development from pre-colonial period to Independence of the country. This will cover the nature and characteristics of economy before colonial rule and its transition to the colonial regime.
- In doing so, it investigates the place of the Indian economy in the wider context of the regime changes, and the mechanisms that linked economic development in India to the compulsions of colonial rule.
- Key themes including the commercialization of agriculture, deindustrialisation hypothesis, mortality and famines and debates around the retreat of the Raj is discussed.

#### Learning outcomes

The Learning Outcomes of this course are as follows:

- The students develop and enhance critical analytical skills of Indian growth and development trajectories.
- It further exposes the students to understand the intricacies of India's economic, political and social developments in the past that may have relevance in the present times.
- It increases employability of students by enhancing their ability to deal with a variety of textual and statistical sources, appreciate their contexts, strengths and weaknesses, and draw upon them to construct a coherent argument.
- Besides strengthening the ability to pursue post-graduate studies these skills would be useful in a variety of careers in academics and business research, journalism as well as the government.

#### Syllabus

**UNIT I:** Economic changes from pre-colonial to colonial regimes - nature and characteristics; Colonialism and the Indian Economy (12 hours)

**UNIT II:** Population, Mortality and Famines (12 hours)

**UNIT III:** Agriculture, Industry and Railways (12 hours)

**UNIT IV:** The Economy and State in the Imperial Context: The Retreat of the Raj (09 hours)

### Recommended readings

- Balachandran, Gopalan (2016), Colonial India and the World Economy. c. 1850- 1940, in L. Chaudhary, B. Gupta, T Roy and A. V. Swami (eds.), *A New Economic History of Colonial India*, Routledge, London and New York, Ch.6, pp. 84-99.
- Parthasarathy, P (2011), *Why Europe Grew Rich and Asia did not: Global Economic Divergence, 1600-1850*, CUP, Cambridge, Ch 2, 8.
- Bhattacharya, Sabyasachi (2005) 'Introduction' in the new edition of Kumar, Dharma (ed.) *Cambridge Economic History of India*. Vol 2. Orient Longman.
- Tirthankar Roy, 2011, *The Economic History of India 1857-1947*, 3rd edn, Oxford University Press, Delhi, Chapter 11 'Population and Labour'.
- Guha, Sumit (1991), Mortality decline in early 20th century India, *Indian Economic and Social History Review*, vol. 28, Issue 4, pp 371-87.
- Klein, Ira (1984), When Rains Fail: Famine relief and mortality in British India, *Indian Economic and Social History Review*, vol. 21, issue 2, pp. 185-214.
- Roy, Tirthankar 2011, *Agriculture, The Economic History of India 1857-1947*, 3rd Edn, Orient Longman, Delhi, Ch. 4, pp. 104-148.
- Gadgil, D R (1973) *The Industrial Evolution of India in Recent Times*. Chapters on Rural Credit.
- Behal, Rana P. (2010) 'Coolie Drivers or Benevolent Paternalists? British Tea Planters in Assam and Indenture Labour System in Assam', *Modern Asian Studies* 44, 1, 2010, pp. 29-51.
- Ray, Rajat K (ed.), 1994, *Introduction in Entrepreneurship and Industry in India*, OUP, Delhi, pp.1-69.
- Hurd, John (2005) Railways in Kumar, Dharma (ed)
- CEHI Vol II
- Morris, Morris, D (1965) *The Emergence of An Industrial Labour Force in India: A Study of the Bombay Cotton Mills 1854-1947*. OUP, Delhi, Concluding Chapter 11, pp.198-210.

**Note: Examination scheme and mode shall be as prescribed by the Examination Branch, University of Delhi, from time to time.**