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CHAPTER

The Making of a Global World

Level - 1

CORE SUBJECTIVE QUESTIONS

MULTIPLE CHOICE QUESTIONS (MCQs)

1. Option (C) is correct

Explanation: Option I is correct as Buddhism spread through missionaries, scholars, and monks who carried its teachings to different regions, leading to cultural interactions.

Option II is also correct as the Silk Route played a crucial role in spreading Buddhism to China, Central Asia, and beyond as traders and monks travelled along this route.

Option III is correct as Buddhist traders and pilgrims helped in the transmission of Buddhist ideas and practices to regions like Sri Lanka, Southeast Asia, and Central Asia.

Option IV is incorrect as Buddhism spread long before European involvement. European scholars later studied and translated Buddhist texts, but they did not contribute to its original spread.

2. Option (B) is correct.

Explanation: India and Southeast Asia were famous for their high-quality textiles and exotic spices, which were in great demand along the Silk Route. These goods were traded with other regions, influencing global trade and cultural exchanges.

3. Option (C) is correct

Explanation: Buddhism emerged from eastern India and spread to Central Asia, China, Southeast Asia, and beyond through the Silk Routes. Buddhist monks and traders played a crucial role in transmitting Buddhist teachings, art, and culture along these trade networks.

4. Option (D) is correct

Explanation: In the pre-modern world, the major factors that shaped global connections were trade, labour, and capital flows. While some technological exchanges occurred, large-scale technological advancements and their rapid spread became more prominent during the modern industrial era rather than the pre-modern period.

5. Option (A) is correct

Explanation: In the 19th century, many Europeans fled to America due to widespread poverty, unemployment, and diseases caused by industrialisation, failed harvests, and social inequalities. America offered better economic opportunities, land, and improved living conditions, making it a desirable destination for migrants.

MATCH THE FOLLOWING QUESTIONS

1. Option (C) is correct

Explanation: (i) Cowries or seashells were used as a currency in India.

(ii) Chinese pottery moved through the Silk Route to Europe and Asia.

(iii) Italy is known for pasta, including spaghetti.

(iv) In chain of ready food stuff, Pasta came from Italy through Arab Traders.

2. Option (B) is correct

Explanation: (i) Rinderpest, a devastating cattle disease, arrived in Africa in the late 1880s.

(ii) Corn Laws were imposed in Britain to restrict the import of corn.

(iii) The Bretton Woods Conference was held in New Hampshire, USA, in July 1944.

(iv) Canal Colonies were areas in western Punjab where the British built irrigation canals to turn semi-desert lands into fertile fields for growing wheat and cotton for export.

ASSERTION-REASON QUESTIONS

1. Option (B) is correct

Explanation: The Silk Routes facilitated trade and cultural exchange between Asia, Europe,

and Africa, making them a prime example of pre-modern global connections. While the Silk Routes were named after Chinese silk exports, they

also facilitated trade in spices, textiles, precious metals, and the exchange of ideas, religions, and technologies.

Both assertion and reason are true but reason does not explain assertion as to why silk routes are example of pre-modern trade.

2. Option (A) is correct

Explanation: Both the assertion and the reason are true and logically connected. Throughout history, various groups such as travellers, traders, priests, and pilgrims have embarked on long journeys spanning vast distances.

VERY SHORT ANSWER TYPE QUESTIONS

1. (i) The Silk routes are the good example of vibrant pre-modern trade and cultural links between distant parts of the world.
(ii) The name silk route points to be the importance of West –bound Chinese silk cargoes along this route.
(iii) Historians have identified several silk routes, over land and by sea, knitting together vast regions of Asia, and linking Asia with Europe and northern Africa.
(iv) They are known to have existed since before the Christian Era and thrived almost till the fifteenth century.
(v) Chinese pottery also travelled the same route, as did textiles and spices from India and Southeast Asia. In return precious metals- gold and silver- flowed from Europe.
(Any two)
2. (i) European sailors found a sea route to Asia and successfully crossed the western oceans to America.
(ii) The Indian sub-continent was central to these flows and crucial point in their network.
(iii) The entry of the European helped expand or redirect some of these flows towards Europe.
3. (i) In the pre-modern world trade route such as silk routes facilitated the exchange of goods, ideas and technologies are vast distances.
(ii) The silk routes are examples of vibrant pre-modern trade and cultural link between distant parts of the world. Food offers many examples of long distance cultural exchange.
4. (i) The Pre-modern world shrank greatly in the sixteen century after European sailors found a sea route to Asia and also successfully crossed the western ocean to America. The entry of Europeans helped to expand or redirect some of these flows towards Europe.
(ii) The Portuguese and Spain conquest and colonisation of United State of America by the mid – sixteenth century also played major role in the expansion of trade.
5. Until the nineteenth century, poverty and hunger were common in Europe due to several factors:
(i) **Low Agricultural Productivity:** Traditional farming methods led to low food production, resulting in frequent food shortages and famines.
(ii) **Social and Economic Inequalities:** Wealth was concentrated among the aristocracy, while peasants and workers struggled with low wages and high taxes, making it difficult to afford basic necessities.
6. (i) The silk routes are a good example of vibrant pre-modern trade and cultural links. It connected Europe and Africa in the west and China in the east. These routes were known to have existed before the Christian era and thrived almost till the 15th century.
(ii) Chinese pottery from the east, spices and textiles from India and South east Asia were transported along these routes.
Thus, India lay at the centre of the trade network between these continents and participated in this trade.
7. In the 19th century, people fled Europe for America due to:
(i) **Poverty and Unemployment:** Industrialisation led to job losses in traditional industries, and overcrowded cities made living conditions difficult.
(ii) **Political and Religious Persecution:** Many sought freedom from oppressive governments and religious discrimination, hoping for a better life in America.
8. (i) Recruitment was done by agents engaged by employers and paid a small commission.
(ii) Many migrants agreed to take up work hoping to escape poverty or oppression in their home villages.
(iii) Agents also tempted the prospective migrants by providing false information about final destinations, modes of travel, the nature of the work, living and working conditions.
(iv) Often migrants were not even told that they were to embark on a long sea voyage.
(v) Sometimes agents forcefully abducted less willing migrants.
(Any two)
9. (i) Spanish carried germs of smallpox on their person and Americans were affected due to their no immunity.
(ii) Smallpox proved to be a deadly killer.

- (iii) Once introduced it spread deep into the continent, ahead even of any Europeans reaching there.
- (iv) Smallpox killed and decimated whole communities and paved the way for conquest of Europe.

- (v) Guns could be bought or captured and turned against the invaders, but not disease such as smallpox, to which the conquerors were mostly immune. (Any two)

SHORT ANSWER TYPE QUESTIONS

1. In the 19th century, indenture was described as a new system of slavery due to the harsh conditions faced by indentured labourers.
 - (i) Poor peasants from India, China, and other regions were lured with false promises of good wages and working conditions. However, they were bound by long-term contracts that severely restricted their freedom.
 - (ii) Indentured labourers were often subjected to inhumane treatment, long working hours, poor living conditions, and physical abuse, similar to the experiences of enslaved people.
 - (iii) Workers were legally bound to plantations, and escaping was punished severely. They had little control over their wages and were treated as property by plantation owners.
2. Indian trade was highly beneficial for the British during the seventeenth century in the following ways:
 - (i) India supplied highly demanded goods such as cotton textiles, spices, silk, and indigo, which were sold at high profits in European markets.
 - (ii) The British East India Company gained trading rights in India, establishing factories and monopolising trade, which strengthened Britain's economic position.
 - (iii) Britain imported valuable goods from India at low costs and sold them at higher prices in Europe, leading to huge profits and economic growth for Britain.
3. The outbreak of Rinderpest in Africa in the 1890s had a devastating impact on people's livelihoods and the local economy:
 - (i) Rinderpest, a cattle plague, spread across Africa, killing nearly 90% of the cattle. Since cattle were a major source of food, transport, and trade, their loss led to severe hardships.
 - (ii) African communities that depended on cattle for agriculture and trade suffered economic decline, as there was no livestock for plowing fields, transporting goods, or selling in markets.
 - (iii) With local economies weakened, many Africans were forced to work as labourers for European colonisers on plantations, railways, and mines, leading to greater colonial exploitation.
4. Canal Colonies were irrigated agricultural settlements developed by the British in western Punjab during the late 19th and early 20th centuries. These colonies were created by constructing canals to bring water to dry, uncultivated lands, making them fertile for farming.

The Canal Colonies were developed in the Punjab region, particularly in areas such as Chenab, Jhelum, Rachna Doab, Bari Doab. These regions were previously arid and uncultivated but were transformed into productive agricultural lands through irrigation projects.

They were introduced to increase agricultural production, revenue generation, settle peasants and soldiers, and support the Railways and Industries.

LONG ANSWER TYPE QUESTIONS

1. Indentured labourers, primarily from India, China, and other Asian countries, were taken to plantations in the Caribbean, Africa, Fiji, and Southeast Asia during the 19th and early 20th centuries. They played a significant role in cultural fusion by blending their native traditions with local cultures, leading to unique global cultural identities.
 - (i) **Spread of Indian Cuisine and Festivals:** Indentured labourers introduced Indian spices, cooking techniques, and dishes like roti, curry, dal, and chutneys in countries such as Trinidad, Mauritius, Fiji, and Guyana. Festivals like Diwali and Holi became popular and are still celebrated in many regions outside India.
 - (ii) **Influence on Language and Literature:** Indian labourers introduced Hindi, Bhojpuri, Tamil, and Urdu words into local languages, creating new dialects in the Caribbean and South Africa. Folktales, songs, and oral traditions from India merged with local storytelling traditions.

- (iii) **Religious and Social Practices:** Hindu temples, mosques, and gurudwaras were built in new lands, preserving religious traditions. Practices like yoga and Ayurveda spread and influenced global lifestyles.
 - (iv) **Evolution of Music and Dance:** Indian musical instruments, rhythms, and dance forms merged with African and Caribbean music, leading to new forms like Chutney music in Trinidad and Suriname. Traditional dance forms like Bharatanatyam and Garba influenced local performances.
 - (v) **Contribution to Labour Movements and Identity:** Indentured workers fought against discrimination and exploitation, contributing to the rise of labour unions and political activism in many colonies. They helped shape the multi-cultural identities of Fiji, Mauritius, Trinidad, and other regions, blending diverse cultures into a unique social fabric.
2. During the late 19th century, India was an important part of the global economy due to its rich resources, strategic location, and colonial connections. Indian trade significantly contributed to international commerce in the following ways:
- (i) **Major Supplier of Raw Materials:** India exported raw cotton, jute, indigo, spices, tea, and wheat to Britain and other industrialized nations. These raw materials supported the growth of British industries, especially the textile mills in Manchester and Lancashire.
 - (ii) **Huge Market for Finished Goods:** India served as a large consumer market for British manufactured goods like textiles, machinery, and iron products. The destruction of India's handloom industry led to increased dependence on imported British textiles, benefiting British manufacturers.
 - (iii) **Role in International Trade Networks:** Indian ports like Bombay, Calcutta, and Madras became important centres for global trade. Indian goods were re-exported to South-east Asia, Africa, and Europe, making India a key link in world trade routes.
 - (iv) **Contribution to British Economic Prosperity:** The British imposed high land revenue taxes and exported Indian wealth through the 'Drain of Wealth', which helped finance Britain's industrial growth and empire expansion. Indian trade profits were used to pay for Britain's imports of tea, coffee, and other goods from China.
 - (v) **Role in Labour and Financial Movements:** Indian indentured labourers were sent to Caribbean islands, Fiji, Mauritius, and Africa, strengthening colonial economies. Indian capitalists and traders expanded businesses across Asia and Africa, contributing to global commerce.
3. (i) Traders and travellers introduced new crops to the lands they travelled. Even 'ready' foodstuff in distant parts of the world might share common origins.
- (ii) It is believed that noodles travelled west from China to become spaghetti.
 - (iii) Arab traders took pasta to fifth-century Sicily, an island now in Italy.
 - (iv) Similar foods were also known in India and Japan, so the truth about their origins may never be known.
 - (v) Many of our common foods such as potatoes, soya, groundnuts, maize, tomatoes, chilies, sweet potatoes, and so on were not known to our ancestors until about five centuries ago.
 - (vi) These foods were only introduced in Europe and Asia after Christopher Columbus accidentally discovered the vast continent that would later become known as the Americas.
 - (vii) Sometimes the new crops could make the difference between life and death. Europe's poor began to eat better and live longer with the introduction of the humble potato.
- (Any five)

Level - 2 ADVANCED COMPETENCY FOCUSED QUESTIONS

MULTIPLE CHOICE QUESTIONS (MCQs)

1. Option (B) is correct

Explanation: The Silk Routes were a network of ancient trade routes that connected Asia with Europe and parts of Africa, long before the modern era. Along with the trade of silk and other goods, these routes also facilitated the exchange of ideas, culture, art, and religion, reflecting early forms of global interaction and cultural diffusion.

2. Option (C) is correct

Explanation: The invention of refrigerated ships in the 19th century allowed perishable food items like meat, dairy, and fruits to be transported over long distances without spoiling. This innovation enabled countries like Australia, New Zealand, and Argentina to export meat to European markets. It linked distant agricultural producers to global consumers and boosted trade and agricultural production for export purposes.

3. Option (D) is correct

Explanation: By the late 19th century, European colonial powers expanded their control over large parts of Asia, Africa, and Latin America to extract raw materials like cotton, spices, and minerals, sell their manufactured goods to captive colonial markets, and maximise profits through economic domination, not mutual benefit. This clearly reflects that economic exploitation was central to imperialism during this period.

4. Option (C) is correct

Explanation: In the 19th century, the British and other colonial powers required cheap and controlled labour to work on plantations, mines, and infrastructure projects in colonies like Mauritius, Fiji, the Caribbean, and Africa. This led to the rise of the indentured labour system, where workers from India were recruited under long-term contracts (usually misleading), paid very little, and often faced harsh working and living conditions. This system resembled a new form of slavery, driven by the colonial economic need for cheap, disciplined labour.

5. Option (C) is correct

Explanation: In the 19th century, colonial agricultural policies in India were designed to serve British economic interests, not local needs. Peasants were forced or coerced into growing commercial crops like Indigo (for dyeing in British textile mills), Cotton (for Britain's textile industry), and Opium (for export to China). These crops were not for local consumption, leading to food insecurity and exploitation of Indian farmers.

6. Option (B) is correct

Explanation: Statement I is false as European colonial powers did not colonise primarily to promote education or cultural growth. While they may have introduced some schools and institutions, their main motive was not educational upliftment, but economic and political dominance.

Statement II is true because the primary goals of colonisation were to gain political control over territories and exploit their resources and people for the benefit of the colonial power — through forced labour, plantations, and commercial crops.

ASSERTION-REASON QUESTIONS

1. Option (C) is correct

Explanation: Assertion is true because the Silk Routes were ancient trade networks that connected Asia, Europe, and parts of Africa, facilitating the exchange of goods (like silk, spices) and ideas (religion, art, culture) long before modern globalisation.

Reason is false because the Silk Routes existed and were active centuries before the 20th century, especially during the ancient and medieval periods. They connected Asia with Europe and sometimes parts of Africa, but not only Europe and Africa or only in the 20th century.

2. Option (B) is correct

Explanation: Assertion is true because the 19th-century global economy saw an expansion in plantation agriculture, mining, and infrastructure in European colonies. This created a demand for cheap, reliable labour, leading to the large-scale migration of Indian indentured labourers to colonies such as Mauritius, Fiji, Trinidad, and others.

Reason is also true. While many labourers were enticed by false promises of good wages, better working conditions, and return passage, the actual driving force behind the migration was the colonial need for labour. Many labourers were recruited through deceptive means and ended up working in harsh, exploitative conditions.

Both assertion and reason are true but reason is not the correct explanation of assertion.

3. Option (D) is correct

Explanation: Assertion is false because European colonisers did not promote Indian handloom industries. In fact, they undermined them by imposing high taxes on Indian textiles, encouraging import of cheap machine-made goods from Britain, and discouraging traditional crafts to benefit British industries.

Reason is true because Colonies like India were seen primarily as sources of raw materials (like cotton), and markets for finished goods from Europe. This was part of the economic exploitation under colonial rule.

4. Option (A) is correct

Explanation: Assertion (A) is true because in the 19th century, colonies like India and Africa played a key role in the global economy by supporting the economic expansion of European powers.

Reason is also true and correctly explains the assertion. These colonies were used to extract raw materials (like cotton, spices, and minerals) needed for European industries, and act as markets for manufactured goods, ensuring profits for European businesses.

VERY SHORT ANSWER TYPE QUESTIONS

1. The statement can be justified with the following examples:
 - (i) **Silk Routes:** These ancient trade routes connected Asia, Europe, and Africa, enabling the exchange of goods like silk and spices, as well as ideas, religions, and cultures, long before modern globalization.
 - (ii) **Movement of People and Diseases:** Traders, priests, and travellers moved across regions, spreading religions (like Buddhism and Islam) and even diseases like the bubonic plague, showing the early global interactions.
2. The 19th-century global agricultural economy was closely tied to colonialism, as European powers exploited colonies for their own benefit. Two examples are:
 - (i) **Forced Commercial Crop Cultivation:** In colonies like India, farmers were forced to grow indigo, cotton, and opium instead of food crops. These were exported to feed European industries and trade interests.
 - (ii) **Indentured Labour Migration:** Colonial powers recruited indentured labourers from India to work on plantations in Caribbean, Fiji, and Africa, supplying cheap labour for agricultural production meant for European markets.
3. Technological advancements in the 19th century played a crucial role in strengthening global trade. This can be seen through:
 - (i) **Refrigerated Ships:** These enabled the long-distance transport of perishable goods like meat and dairy, linking agricultural exporters like Australia and New Zealand with European markets.
 - (ii) **Steamships and Railways:** They reduced transport time and costs, making it easier and faster to move raw materials and finished goods across continents, thus expanding trade networks.
4. Colonialism disrupted self-sufficient rural economies in colonies like India through the following economic changes:
 - (i) **Forced Commercialisation of Agriculture:** British policies forced Indian farmers to grow cash crops like indigo, cotton, and opium instead of food grains. This made villages dependent on the market and vulnerable to price fluctuations and famines.
 - (ii) **Destruction of Traditional Industries:** Indian handicraft and textile industries were unable to compete with machine-made British goods imported under free trade policies. This led to widespread unemployment and poverty in rural areas that once relied on local crafts.
5. The invention of refrigerated ships in the 19th century had a major impact on global trade and agriculture:
 - (i) **Enabled Long-Distance Trade of Perishables:** These ships allowed perishable food items like meat, dairy, and fruits to be transported across oceans without spoiling, linking producers in Australia, New Zealand, and South America with European markets.
 - (ii) **Encouraged Large-Scale Agricultural Production:** To meet growing European demand, countries expanded livestock farming and commercial agriculture, integrating distant regions into the global food economy.

SHORT ANSWER TYPE QUESTIONS

1. The global economy of the 19th century was shaped by the twin forces of industrialisation in Europe and imperialism in colonies like India. This had the following major impacts on India's economic structure:
 - (i) **Source of Raw Materials:** India was turned into a supplier of raw materials such as cotton, jute, and indigo to meet the demands of British industries. This shift reduced cultivation of food crops, leading to food insecurity and famines.
 - (ii) **Market for British Goods:** Indian markets were used to sell British manufactured goods. The influx of cheap machine-made textiles led to the collapse of traditional Indian crafts and industries, causing widespread unemployment, especially among artisans.
 - (iii) **Disruption of Self-Sufficient Rural Economies:** Colonial economic policies and taxation systems disrupted village-based self-reliant economies, forcing farmers into debt and dependence on global markets controlled by the British.
2. Thus, industrialisation in Europe, supported by imperial control, led to the exploitation and restructuring of colonial economies for the benefit of the imperial powers.
2. System of indentured labour migration in the 19th century was presented as an opportunity for better life and work but was, in reality, a form of economic exploitation, especially in the case of Indian labourers:
 - (i) **False Promises:** Labourers were often misled by agents who promised high wages,

comfortable living conditions, and return passage. In reality, they faced low pay, long hours, and harsh working conditions in distant colonies like Mauritius, Fiji, and the Caribbean.

(ii) **Exploitative Contracts:** The contracts were legally binding but heavily favoured plantation owners, leaving labourers with little freedom. Many were treated almost like slaves, with punishments for disobedience and restrictions on movement.

(iii) **Lack of Rights and Representation:** These labourers had no political rights and limited access to legal support. They were often isolated from local populations and had to rely on each other for survival, forming tightly-knit communities in exile.

Thus, while the system appeared voluntary and lawful, it masked a deeply exploitative structure that benefited colonial economies at the cost of Indian labourers' rights and dignity.

3. Technological innovations in the 19th century played a key role in accelerating globalisation by connecting regions and enabling the faster movement of goods, people, and information. Three major developments include:

(i) **Steamships:** These replaced sailing ships and drastically reduced travel time and cost, making the transport of raw materials and finished goods more efficient across continents.

(ii) **Railways:** Built extensively in colonies like India, railways helped in the movement of goods from interior regions to ports, boosting trade and helping integrate local economies into the global market.

(iii) **Telegraph:** The invention of the telegraph allowed instant communication across long distances, helping businesses and governments coordinate trade and control colonial territories more effectively.

Together, these technologies laid the foundation for a more interconnected global economy, increasing trade, migration, and imperial control.

4. Colonialism brought significant changes not only to the economy but also to labour systems and migration patterns, especially through the plantation system and the use of indentured labourers:

(i) **Demand for Cheap Labour:** Colonial powers needed a steady supply of cheap, controllable labour to work on plantations in colonies like Mauritius, Fiji, and the Caribbean. This led to the large-scale migration of Indian labourers under the indenture system.

(ii) **Exploitative Contracts:** Labourers were recruited through deceptive promises of high wages and better living conditions. In reality, they were bound by strict contracts, worked in harsh environments, and faced limited rights and freedom, often under near-slavery conditions.

(iii) **Forced Cultural Displacement:** This system caused long-term social and cultural displacement, as labourers were taken far from home and had to rebuild lives in foreign lands, forming new communities under difficult conditions.

Thus, colonialism reshaped global labour flows and migration by exploiting people from colonies for the benefit of imperial plantation economies.

5. Silk Routes were not just channels of economic trade but also served as pathways of cultural exchange, greatly influencing global interactions in the pre-modern world. This can be explained through the following examples:

(i) **Exchange of Goods:** Economically, the Silk Routes enabled the trade of valuable items such as silk, spices, precious metals, and glassware, connecting China, India, Central Asia, the Middle East, and Europe, creating a web of global commerce.

(ii) **Spread of Religions:** Religions like Buddhism, Christianity, and Islam spread along these routes. For instance, Buddhist monks travelled from India to China, taking scriptures, art, and cultural practices, which shaped East Asian traditions.

(iii) **Transmission of Ideas and Art:** Along with goods, the Silk Routes carried scientific knowledge, artistic styles, and technologies like papermaking and printing. This led to cross-cultural fertilization, enriching the civilizations they touched.

Thus, the Silk Routes were vital in shaping a shared global heritage, blending economic interdependence with cultural exchange in the pre-modern world.

CASE BASED QUESTIONS

1. (i) Noodles. It is believed that it travelled west from China to become spaghetti.
- (ii) Many of our common foods such as potatoes, soya, groundnuts, maize, tomatoes, chillies, sweet potatoes, and so on were not known

to our ancestors until about five centuries ago.

- (iii) Food helped significantly in long-distance cultural exchange as traders and travellers introduced new crops to the lands they

- travelled. Even 'ready' foodstuff in distant parts of the world might share common origins.
2. (i) When European sailors found a sea route to Asia and successfully crossed the western ocean to America, then the pre-modern world shrank greatly in the sixteenth century.
 - (ii) The Indian Oceans had known a bustling trade, with goods, people, knowledge, customs, etc. criss-crossing its waters.
 3. (i) The indentured labour is often described as a "new system of slavery" because, although presented as a contract-based employment, labourers worked under inhumane conditions, faced long hours, poor wages, racial discrimination, and had limited freedom, making their situation similar to slavery.
 - (ii) Uttar Pradesh and Tamil Nadu.
 - (iii) Indentured workers preserved and practiced their cultural traditions such as language, religion, festivals, music, and food. Over time, these elements blended with local cultures, helping shape the multicultural identities of places like Fiji, Trinidad, and Mauritius.
4. (i) Refrigerated ships made it possible to transport perishable goods like meat and dairy over long distances without spoilage, allowing countries such as Australia and New Zealand to export food to European markets, thus expanding international trade.
 - (ii) Colonies like India were crucial because they supplied raw materials (like cotton and jute) and cheap labour, and also served as markets for European manufactured goods, even if it meant neglecting local needs and industries.
 - (iii) Technological innovations like steamships, railways, and refrigerated ships reduced transport time and cost, enabling faster and more reliable movement of goods and people across continents. This allowed for the mass export of raw materials from colonies, increased global food supply, and led to large-scale labour migrations such as the indentured labour system, thereby integrating distant economies into a single global trading system.

LONG ANSWER TYPE QUESTIONS

1. (i) **Role of Industrialisation:** The Industrial Revolution in Europe, especially in Britain, increased the demand for raw materials like cotton and indigo and created surplus manufactured goods. Industrialised countries required new markets to sell these goods, pushing them to establish tighter control over colonies. As a result, colonies like India were transformed into suppliers of raw materials and consumers of British goods, making them integral to global trade.
 - (ii) **Technological Innovations:** Technological breakthroughs such as the steam engine, railways, telegraph, and refrigerated ships revolutionised transportation and communication. Steamships and railways reduced the cost and time of moving goods and people, while telegraph lines enabled quicker decision-making across empires. Refrigerated ships opened up new global food markets by making it possible to export perishable goods like meat from Australia and New Zealand to Europe.
 - (iii) **Impact on Colonies like India:** Colonies bore the burden of globalisation. In India, traditional industries like textiles suffered due to the influx of cheap British goods. Farmers were forced to grow cash crops for export, often facing poverty, debt, and food shortages. Indian labourers were also sent overseas as indentured workers, especially to plantations in Mauritius, Fiji, and the Caribbean, under exploitative contracts.
2. (i) **Reasons for Labour Migration:** Indentured labourers, mainly from Uttar Pradesh, Bihar, and Tamil Nadu, were driven to migrate due to poverty, frequent famines, rising land rents, and loss of traditional livelihoods. Agents (called Arkatis) often misled them with false promises of good wages, easy work, and return tickets, pushing desperate people to sign long-term contracts.
 - (ii) **Working Conditions in Colonies:** Once transported to plantations in Mauritius, Fiji, the Caribbean, and Africa, labourers faced harsh conditions—long hours, poor wages, physical punishment, and racial discrimination. Contracts were difficult to escape, and few could afford the return passage. Their freedom was limited, and they lived under strict discipline, often compared to slavery.
 - (iii) **Link to the Global Economy:** This system was tied to the 19th-century global economy, where cheap labour was essential to profitably run colonial plantations that

produced sugar, tea, rubber, and other export commodities. The migration of indentured labourers helped connect Asian labour to European-controlled markets, supporting the flow of goods, capital, and profits globally.

3. (i) **Crop Production in Colonies:** Colonial rulers forced farmers to grow cash crops like indigo, cotton, opium, tea, and jute instead of food crops. For instance, in India, peasants were often compelled to grow indigo and cotton under oppressive conditions. These crops were exported to Europe to feed textile and other industries, while food shortages and famines increased due to reduced local food production.
- (ii) **Decline of Local Industries:** Traditional Indian industries, especially handloom weaving, suffered as cheap, machine-made British goods flooded Indian markets. The British imposed import duties on Indian goods in Britain but allowed free entry of British products into India, causing local artisans and craftsmen to lose livelihoods and contributing to the deindustrialisation of India.
- (iii) **Role of Forced Labour and Migration:** Colonial economies depended heavily on indentured and forced labour. Millions of Indian labourers were sent to work on plantations in Mauritius, Fiji, and the Caribbean under exploitative contracts. In Africa, systems like *corvée* labour forced locals to build railways, mines, and plantations for European benefit. These

labour systems were designed to maximise profit for colonial powers at the cost of human rights.

4. (i) **The Silk Routes:** The Silk Routes were ancient trade networks that linked China, Central Asia, India, the Middle East, and Europe. These routes facilitated the movement of luxury goods like silk, spices, porcelain, and precious metals. But they were not just economic pathways — they also enabled the spread of ideas, technologies, and religions, such as Buddhism from India to East Asia, thus creating early global links.
- (ii) **The Role of Traders and Travellers:** Traders, merchants, monks, and explorers like Marco Polo, Ibn Battuta, and Fa-Hien played an essential role in connecting distant regions. They carried goods, religious beliefs, scientific knowledge, and cultural practices across continents. Their journeys built trust and relationships between civilizations, helping create a web of global exchange long before industrialisation.
- (iii) **Cultural and Economic Exchanges Before the Industrial Revolution:** Before modern industry, there were already extensive trade networks across Asia, Africa, and Europe. Indian textiles, Arab mathematics, Chinese paper-making, and African gold and ivory were exchanged widely. These interactions led to shared knowledge, hybrid cultures, and early economic interdependence, which later expanded through colonial trade and industrial capitalism.

