



**CLASS - VI - JANUARY MONTH NOTES**

**9. New Empires and Kingdoms**

**I. TECHNICAL WORDS :**

1. Prashasti - A Sanskrit word that means 'in praise of.
2. Genealogy - List of ancestors.
3. Nagaram - An organization of merchants.
4. Ur - Village assembly owned by non-brahmins.
5. Sabha - Assembly that functioned through sub-continent.

**II. SHORT ANSWER TYPE QUESTIONS :**

**1. Write a short note on Samudragupta.**

Chandragupta-I was succeeded by his son, Samudragupta. He is considered to be the greatest ruler of the dynasty. His empire extended from the river Brahmaputra in the east, to the rivers Yamuna and Chambal in the west and from the Himalayas in the north to the river, Narmada in the South. It is said that Samudragupta defeated nine kings in the north and twelve kings in the South. His most important military exploit was his Deccan campaign in which he covered a long distance of 3,000 miles through dense forest. That is why, he is called the Indian Napoleon.

**2. Mention three authors who wrote about Harshavardhana.**

Banabhatta, Chinese Buddhist traveller Xuan Zang and Ravikirti poet of Pulakeshin-II wrote about Harshavardhana.

**3. What do you understand by the navaratnas in the court of Chandragupta-II?**

Navaratna means nine gems of learned men in the court of Chandragupta-II.

**4. Write a short note on the Chalukya Dynasty.**

The Chalukyas established a powerful kingdom in North Deccan. Their kingdom spread between rivers Krishna and Tungabhadra. Aihole was their capital. It was a trading centre and had a number of temples.

**III. LONG ANSWER TYPE QUESTIONS :**

**1. Discuss the new administrative arrangements between the 4th century and 7th century India.**

There were a number of new administrative arrangements which had significant impact on the kingdoms. During this period kings adopted various steps to win the support of socially or economically powerful men. Kings thought their support might be helpful for their political and military strength.

These steps were:

- Some important administrative posts became hereditary.
- One person might hold many offices.
- Important men participated in local administration.

**2. Mention the changes made in the army during the Gupta and post-Gupta period.**

Many changes were made in the army during this period. These were:

- Military leader who provided kings with troops did not get regular salaries but received grant of land. These samantas could collect revenue from land.
- Samantas could use the revenue collected by them to maintain soldiers, horses, war equipments.

**3. Do you agree that ordinary people would not have read and understood the Prashastis? Give reasons in support of your answer.**

Yes, I agree. This has the following reasons:

- Prashastis were written in Sanskrit language and it was not the language of ordinary people as they use Prakrit language. Sanskrit was the language of the rich and learned people.
- These Prashastis were composed in very long sentences which would be difficult to understand for ordinary people.

**4. Discuss how Samudragupta dealt with different rulers.**

Samudragupta dealt with them as follows:

- The defeated rulers of Aryavarta were made part of his empire and were ruled directly by him.
- Dakshinapatha was not annexed to his kingdom, however, defeated rulers were allowed to rule again who accepted him as their ruler and paid tribute.
- Frontier states of eastern and western India accepted his power, followed his orders, brought tribute and attended his court.
- Northwestern kingdoms and Sri Lankan rulers submitted to him, paid tribute and offered their daughters in marriage.

**IV. Picture Study :**

The picture shows a gold coin of Samudragupta playing a musical instrument. Answer the following questions with respect to the picture.



**1. Name the instrument Samudragupta is seen playing in the coin.**

The instrument Samudragupta is seen playing in the coin is Veena.

**2. From where do we get information about Samudragupta?**

We get information about Samudragupta from a pillar inscription at Prayagraj (formerly Allahabad) that was composed by his court poet, Harisena in Sanskrit.

**3. Name the court poet of Samudragupta.**

The court poet of Samudragupta was Harisena.

**4. How did Samudragupta deal with the ruler of Sri Lanka?**

## V. Source Based Questions:

Harshavardhana (AD 606-647): His biography is Harshcharita. This is written in Sanskrit by his court poet Banabhatta. Another writer during his reign was the Chinese Buddhist traveller, Xuan Zang. Both of them have praised Harsha.

1. **What is the Biography of Harshavardhana called?**  
Harshacharita
2. **Name the traveller who visited during the rule of Harshavardhana.**  
Xuan Zang
3. **Harsa became the ruler of**  
Thanesar
4. **Harsa took over the kingdom of \_\_\_\_\_ after the death of his brother-in-law.**  
Kannauj

## 5. Urban Administration

### I. TECHNICAL WORDS :

1. Municipality - The local body of a city having a small population i.e., between 20,000 and 10lakhs.
2. Nagar Panchayat - A unit set up for an area that is in the process of changing from a rural to an urban centre.
3. Octroi - Duty levied on goods brought into a town.

### II. SHORT ANSWER TYPE QUESTIONS:

1. **List the provisions of the Seventy-fourth Amendment Act of the Constitution, 1992.**

The seventy-fourth Amendment Act of the constitution, 1992 has provided three types of local self-government bodies in the urban areas.

2. **Mention the functions of a Nagar Panchayat.**

Nagar Panchayat looks after water supply, sanitation, healthcare, drainage, cleaning of streets, street lighting, public buildings, parks, primary education, management of fairs etc. It also records births and deaths in the area.

3. **Make a list of the sources of income of a Nagar Panchayat.**

Nagar Panchayat looks after water supply, sanitation, healthcare, drainage, cleaning of streets, street lighting, public buildings, parks, primary education, management of fairs etc. It also records births and deaths in the area.

4. **What do you mean by a Municipality?**

Municipality or Municipal Council is a local self-government body for small towns or cities. The cities with 20,000 to 10 Lakhs population have municipalities

5. **What do you mean by a Municipal Councillor?**

The elected members of municipal committee are called as municipal councilors.

### III. LONG ANSWER TYPE QUESTIONS:

1. **Write a brief account on the Municipality.**

Municipality is also called as a Municipal Council or Municipal Committee. It is a local

self-governing body for small towns or cities having population between 20,000 to 10 lakhs. Its members are elected directly by registered voters of the city. Numbers of members can vary from town to town depending upon the number of populations.

**2. Mention the various ways in which the work of the Municipal Corporation affects the life of a city dweller.**

Municipal corporation affects the life of a city dweller as it looks after city's day-to-day functioning. It implements the laws framed by the state government. The government services can be provided to them very effectively. It looks after main public needs like health, sanitation, street lighting, parks etc. Thus, the functions of municipal corporation have direct link with life conditions or situations of city dwellers.

**3. What are the various functions of a Municipal Corporation?**

Municipal Corporation functions can be of two types:

- **Compulsory functions:** like public health, sanitation, water supply, education, lighting, public security, maternity and child welfare, public works.
- **Optional functions:** like to establish public park, gardens, theatres, construct night shelter, rest houses, to ensure supply of cooking gas etc.

**4. How do citizens get their grievances addressed? Explain.**

If the works of local governing bodies are not satisfactory people of that ward can protest in form of rally, dharna, protest march etc. They have to first bring their grievances to ward councillor. They can put the demand to municipal commissioner through officer in charge and ward councillors, then problem can be sorted out.

**IV. PICTURE STUDY :**

This is the picture of a Public Park. Answer the following question with respect to the picture



**1. Who maintains the parks in your locality?**

The Municipal Corporation.

**2. How are seats reserved in the wards for elections?**

Some seats in the Municipal Corporations are reserved for SCs and STs and 1/3rd seats are reserved for women.

**3. Write two compulsory and two optional functions of the Municipal Corporation.**

**Compulsory functions:**

- It establishes and runs healthcare centres, dispensaries and hospitals for the common people.
- It makes arrangements for clearing and disposal of garbage, cleaning roads, markets, drains and public toilets.

**Optional functions:**

- It constructs and maintains old homes, orphanages, night shelters, rest houses, etc.
- It ensures supply of cooking gas and milk.

**4. List three sources of income of the Municipal Corporation.**

Three sources of income of the Municipal Corporation:

- It earns money from the Property Tax.
- It imposes tax on the goods coming into the city, known as octroi
- It collects Education Tax for educational activities.

**V. SOURCE BASED QUESTIONS :**

A city is divided into a number of wards, i.e., smaller areas. Each ward elects one member. Some seats in every Municipal Corporation are reserved for Scheduled Caste and the Scheduled Tribe candidates. One-third of the total seats are reserved for the women. Besides the elected members, a corporation also has some nominated and ex-officio members. There are a number of members, called Aldermen. They are usually elected by the councillors from among the greatly experienced and gifted public workers of the city. The MLAs and MPs of that area also form a part of the corporation.

1. In the above para, we are talking about which local self-governing body?  
Municipal Corporation.
2. \_\_\_\_\_ of the total seats are reserved for women.  
1/3<sup>rd</sup>.
3. The nominated members of the Municipal Corporation are called  
Aldermen.
4. \_\_\_\_\_ is the head of the Municipal Corporation.  
Mayor

## 7. Rural Livelihoods

**I. TECHNICAL WORDS :**

- |               |   |   |
|---------------|---|---|
| 1. Hectare    | - | A unit of area equal to 10,000 m <sup>2</sup>   |
| 2. Pesticide  | - | Substance used to destroy insects and pests in plants.                                |
| 3. Blacksmith | - | Person who makes and repairs things in iron by hand.                                  |
| 4. Insurance  | - | An agreement by which a guarantee of compensation is given for failure of crops etc., |
| 5. Collateral | - | Something kept as security for repayment of loan like jewellery, etc.,                |

**II. SHORT ANSWER TYPE QUESTIONS:**

**1. Who are landless agricultural labourers?**

Those who do not have their own land and have to work on other people's farms for their livelihood are known as landless agricultural labourers.

**2. How do small farmers obtain capital for farming?**

Small farmers do not have savings. They have to borrow money for farming. They generally borrow from large farmers, village moneylenders or the traders.

**3. Discuss the distribution of farmers in India and the amount of land they cultivate.**

In India there are 20% farmers who have farms more than 2 hectares. They cultivate 64% of total cultivated area. 80% of the total farmers have less than 2 hectares of land. They cultivate 36% of the total cultivated area.

**4. During the monsoon season, how do the fishermen earn their livelihood?**

During the monsoon season the fishermen earn their livelihood by borrowing from the traders for which they have to sell their fish at lower price.

**5. Why do farmers take loan from the traders? How do they repay it?**

Generally, farmers are illiterate, ignorant and unorganised, so they are not aware of policies of governments and NGOs; and borrow from traders who they know. They have to sell major parts of their produce to traders at lower price to pay their loan.

**III. LONG ANSWER TYPE QUESTIONS:**

**1. Mention the different types of people who depend on farming. Who is the poorest among them and why?**

There are different types of people who depend on farming, they are as follows:

- Landless agricultural labourers.
- Small farmers.
- Medium and large farmers.

Landless women agricultural labourers are the poorest among the people who depend on the farming because they are generally uneducated, unskilled and untrained so they are employed in low paid jobs as for high paid work need physical strength, but women cannot do as much physical work as men can do so they are employed in low paid work.

**2. How do small farmers arrange capital for growing crops?**

Small farmers arrange their capital from the traders, moneylenders or large farmers of their area by borrowing loan from them for their tools, seeds, etc.

**3. People in rural areas are engaged in a variety of non-farming activities. List any five of these.**

Five non-farming activities of rural areas are:

- Making of baskets.
- Making of clay pots and utensils.
- Making of bricks.
- Dairy work.
- Driving bullock carts.
- 

**4. Do you think both the landless agricultural labourers and the large farmers have equal access to good schools, good medical facilities and other resources? Give reasons for your answer. Suggest some reformative measures in this regard.**

No, poor rural labourers often do not have access to good medical facilities, good

schools, and other resources. This difference is due to inequality in both classes. For this these labourers should have regular work for which National Rural Employment Guarantee Act 2005 should be properly implemented. Poor labourers should get loan at low rate of interests to start some petty business to earn some income. They should be made aware of various government economic opportunities.

**5. What steps can be taken by the government to help small farmers when they get into a debt? Discuss.**

For small farmers government should take the following steps especially when they get into debt:

- Government should provide them loans at cheap rate of interest.
- Government should honestly implement Crop Insurance Scheme.
- Government should bring some legislation to curb the undue practices of the village moneylenders or traders so that they could not charge very high interest and impose tough conditions.
- Banks should be instructed to give some special relaxation in providing documentation to small farmers.
- In case of crop failure, part of loan should be waived off.
- They should be made aware of modern farming methods and their benefits.

**IV. PICTURE STUDY :**

This is a village scene in which people are engaged in various types of activities to earn their livelihoods.



1. **Mention the activities that you see people doing in the adjoining picture.**  
Construction of building, brick making, vegetable vendor, toys selling, plucking of fruits etc., using pesticides, fishing, running shop etc.
2. **List the farming activities and non-farming activities in separate columns.**
  - **Farm activities:** using pesticide, plucking fruits and flowers, reaping crops.
  - **Non-farm activities:** fishing, running shop, making bricks, construction work.
3. **In your notebook, draw some pictures of activities that you have seen people doing in the rural areas. Also, write a few sentences to describe the activities.**  
Do it yourself.

## V. SOURCE BASED QUESTIONS:

Modern farming methods require a farmer to start with more cash than before. This is because, traditional methods required traditional seeds which required less irrigation. Farmers used cow-dung and other natural manure as fertilizers. All these were readily available with the farmers; and they did not have to buy them.

But, in modern farming methods, farmers require plenty of water, chemical fertilizers and pesticides to produce best results. Farmers have to set up tubewells in their fields for irrigation. They also have to buy farm machinery like tractors and threshers that make ploughing and harvesting faster and easier.

1. The reason why modern farming methods require more cash are that farmers have to arrange for **All of these.**
2. Materials used in the traditional methods of farming, were **both (a) and (b).**
3. How do small farmers manage capital for agricultural activities? **borrow money.**
4. About **75** % of people in villages still depend upon farming.