



<https://ebookncert.com/>

NCERT History for Class 9th Chapter 4 Notes:

Forest Society and Colonialism

Why Deforestation?

- Definition: The disappearance of forests is called deforestation.
- Not a recent problem: Deforestation began many centuries ago.
- Colonial period impact: Under colonial rule, deforestation became systematic and extensive.
- Next focus: Causes of deforestation in India will be studied in detail.

Land to be Improved

1. Extent of Cultivation in India:

- In 1600, about one-sixth of India's landmass was under cultivation.
- At present, about half of India's landmass is under cultivation.

2. Causes of Expansion of Cultivation:

- Population Growth: As population increased, demand for food went up.
- Peasants' Efforts: Peasants extended cultivation by clearing forests and breaking new land.

- Colonial Period Expansion: Cultivation expanded rapidly in colonial times.

3. Reasons for Colonial Encouragement:

- Commercial Crops Promotion:
 - a.** British encouraged production of jute, sugar, wheat, and cotton.
 - b.** Demand rose in 19th century Europe due to:
 - i.** Need for foodgrains (to feed growing urban population).
 - ii.** Need for raw materials (for industrial production).
- Forests Viewed as Unproductive:
 - a.** Colonial state considered forests as wilderness.
 - b.** Aim: Convert forests into cultivated land to produce crops, yield revenue, and increase state income.
- Statistical Data
 - a.** Between 1880 and 1920, cultivated area increased by 6.7 million hectares.

4. Critical Note:

- Expansion of cultivation is usually seen as progress, but it required clearing forests (leading to deforestation).

Box 1: Land and Cultivation – Australian Example

- Absence of cultivation \neq uninhabited land.
- White settlers in Australia claimed it was terra nullius (empty land).
- In reality:
 - a.** Aboriginal communities already lived there with clearly demarcated territories.
 - b.** Aboriginal guides showed settlers the landscape using aboriginal tracks.

- c.** Ngarrindjeri people organized land around the symbolic body of their ancestor Ngurunderi.
- d.** Their land included five environments:
 - i.** Salt water
 - ii.** Riverine tracts
 - iii.** Lakes
 - iv.** Bush
 - v.** Desert plains
- e.** Each environment fulfilled different socio-economic needs.

Source A

1. Colonial Justification for Conquest:

- Colonisers believed uncultivated land must be taken over and “improved.”
- This idea was used as a justification for conquest and colonisation worldwide.
- It reflected the colonial notion that indigenous owners did not understand the “value” of land.

2. Example from Central America:

- In 1896, American writer Richard Harding expressed colonial views:
 - a.** Claimed Central Americans were like “semi-barbarians” in a “beautifully furnished house.”
 - b.** Suggested they failed to understand the use and comfort of their own land.
 - c.** Implied that land should be taken by those willing to “turn it to account” (exploit it for profit).

3. United Fruit Company:

- Founded in 1899 (three years after Harding's statement).
- Grew bananas on an industrial scale in Central America.
- Example of foreign economic control over local resources.

4. Impact on Central America:

- The United Fruit Company gained enormous power over Central American governments.
- These governments became dependent on the company, earning the nickname "Banana Republics."
- Shows how economic exploitation often led to political dominance.

5. Broader Significance:

- This source highlights:
 - a.** The colonial mindset of superiority over local populations.
 - b.** How economic companies acted as extensions of colonial power.
 - c.** The global pattern of using the idea of "improving land" to legitimize colonisation.

Sleepers on the Tracks

1. Timber Crisis in England:

- By the early 19th century, oak forests in England were rapidly disappearing.
- This created a timber supply crisis for the Royal Navy (needed strong, durable wood for shipbuilding).
- Without timber, imperial power and naval dominance could not be maintained.

2. Shift to Indian Forests:

- From the 1820s, search parties were sent to India to explore timber resources.
- Within a decade, trees were felled on a massive scale, and huge quantities of timber were exported to England.

3. Railways and Timber Demand:

- The spread of railways from the 1850s created new demand for wood:
 - a. Fuel for locomotives.
 - b. Sleepers (wooden planks to hold railway tracks).
- Each mile of track required 1,760–2,000 sleepers.

4. Expansion of Railway Tracks:

- By 1890, India had 25,500 km of railway tracks.
- By 1946, the track length had expanded to over 765,000 km.
- Massive railway expansion → increasing deforestation.

5. Madras Presidency Example:

- As early as the 1850s, in Madras Presidency alone, about 35,000 trees were cut every year for railway sleepers.

6. Contract System:

- The government gave contracts to individuals to supply timber.
- Contractors engaged in indiscriminate cutting of trees.
- Forests near railway tracks disappeared rapidly.

Source B

1. Indus Valley Railway Project:

- Planned between Multan and Sukkur (\approx 300 miles).
- Required: 600,000 sleepers (size: 10 ft \times 10 in \times 5 in).
- Total timber needed: \approx 2 million cubic feet.

2. Fuel Demand:

- Locomotives ran on wood fuel.
- Estimated annual demand: 219,000 maunds of fuel wood.
- Extra fuel also required for brick-burning during railway construction.

3. Sources of Timber and Fuel:

- Sleepers mainly supplied from Sind Forests.
- Fuel wood from tamarisk and jhand forests (Sind + Punjab).

4. Northern State Railway:

- Planned between Lahore and Multan.
- Estimated requirement: 2,200,000 sleepers.

5. Exam-Ready Insights:

- Railways were essential for colonial trade and troop movement.
- But they caused massive deforestation due to demand for sleepers and fuel.
- The contract system promoted unchecked exploitation of forests.
- By late 19th and early 20th century, Indian forests became central to sustaining colonial expansion.

Plantations

1. Deforestation for Plantations:

- Large areas of natural forests were cleared under colonial rule.
- Main purpose: to make way for plantations of tea, coffee, and rubber.

2. Reason for Expansion:

- The clearing of forests was driven by Europe's growing demand for these commodities.
- Plantations ensured a steady supply of tea, coffee, and rubber for European markets.

3. Role of Colonial Government:

- The colonial government took control over forest lands.
- It allotted vast areas at cheap rates to European planters.

4. Plantation Development:

- The forest lands were enclosed and cleared.
- After clearance, they were converted into plantation estates (especially tea & coffee).

5. Key Exam Insights:

- Plantations were a major cause of deforestation in India during colonial times.
- Forests were treated as economic resources for global trade rather than as natural ecosystems.
- Local people lost access to forest land once it was enclosed for plantations.

New words

- **Sleepers** – Wooden planks laid across railway tracks; they hold the tracks in position.

MCQs on NCERT History Class 9 Chapter 4 Topic – Why Deforestation?

Here are the top exam-oriented MCQ-type questions on “*Why Deforestation?*” that you should prepare for your CBSE or state board exams:

Question 1. What is the disappearance of forests called?

- a) Afforestation
- b) Deforestation
- c) Desertification
- d) Plantation

Answer: b) Deforestation

Question 2. When did the process of deforestation become systematic and extensive in India?

- a) During Mughal rule
- b) Under colonial rule
- c) After independence
- d) During ancient times

Answer: b) Under colonial rule

Question 3. In 1600, what fraction of India’s landmass was under cultivation?

- a) One-fourth
- b) One-sixth
- c) One-half
- d) One-eighth

Answer: b) One-sixth

Question 4. At present, approximately how much of India's landmass is under cultivation?

- a) One-third
- b) One-fourth
- c) Half
- d) Two-thirds

Answer: c) Half

Question 5. Why did peasants extend cultivation by clearing forests?

- a) To build industries
- b) Due to increased population and food demand
- c) For railway construction
- d) For military camps

Answer: b) Due to increased population and food demand

Question 6. Which crops were encouraged by the British for commercial production in India?

- a) Tea, coffee, rubber
- b) Rice, pulses, maize

- c) Jute, sugar, wheat, cotton
- d) Barley, potato, oilseeds

Answer: c) Jute, sugar, wheat, cotton

Question 7. Why was there a demand for foodgrains and raw materials in 19th-century Europe?

- a) To feed soldiers only
- b) To support growing urban population and industries
- c) To export them to colonies
- d) For scientific experiments

Answer: b) To support growing urban population and industries

Question 8. How did the colonial state view forests in the early 19th century?

- a) As sacred lands
- b) As unproductive wilderness
- c) As sources of beauty
- d) As places of cultural heritage

Answer: b) As unproductive wilderness

Question 9. Between 1880 and 1920, by how much did the cultivated area increase in India?

- a) 2.7 million hectares
- b) 6.7 million hectares
- c) 10.7 million hectares
- d) 12.7 million hectares

Answer: b) 6.7 million hectares

Question 10. What did colonisers consider as a sign of progress?

- a) Expansion of forests
- b) Expansion of cultivation
- c) Expansion of industries
- d) Expansion of education

Answer: b) Expansion of cultivation

Question 11. What does “terra nullius” mean?

- a) Empty land
- b) Fertile land
- c) Industrial land
- d) Sacred land

Answer: a) Empty land

Question 12. Which community in Australia plotted their land along the symbolic body of Ngurunderi?

- a) Maori
- b) Ngarrindjeri
- c) Aborigines of Tasmania
- d) Zulus

Answer: b) Ngarrindjeri

Question 13. The Ngarrindjeri people's territory included how many different environments?

- a) Three
- b) Four
- c) Five
- d) Six

Answer: c) Five

Question 14. What idea did colonisers use to justify conquest of land worldwide?

- a) Land should be left wild
- b) Uncultivated land must be improved
- c) Land belongs only to locals
- d) Forests are to be preserved

Answer: b) Uncultivated land must be improved

Question 15. Who wrote in 1896 about "improving unimproved lands" in Central America?

- a) David Spurr
- b) Richard Harding
- c) E.P. Stebbing
- d) Winston Churchill

Answer: b) Richard Harding

Question 16. Which company founded in 1899 grew bananas on an industrial scale in Central America?

- a) East India Company
- b) United Fruit Company
- c) Dutch East India Company
- d) Anglo-American Plantation Company

Answer: b) United Fruit Company

Question 17. The term “Banana Republics” referred to which region?

- a) Australia
- b) Africa
- c) Central America
- d) South Asia

Answer: c) Central America

Question 18. Why were oak forests in England disappearing by the early 19th century?

- a) For agriculture
- b) For timber supply to the Royal Navy
- c) For plantations
- d) For railway expansion in England

Answer: b) For timber supply to the Royal Navy

Question 19. Why did British search parties explore India's forests in the 1820s?

- a) For diamonds
- b) For spices

- c) For timber supply
- d) For agricultural land

Answer: c) For timber supply

Question 20. What new demand for timber arose with the spread of railways from the 1850s?

- a) Furniture production
- b) Construction of temples
- c) Sleepers and fuel wood
- d) Shipbuilding

Answer: c) Sleepers and fuel wood

Question 21. How many sleepers were required for each mile of railway track?

- a) 760–1000
- b) 1,760–2,000
- c) 2,760–3,000
- d) 3,500–4,000

Answer: b) 1,760–2,000

Question 22. By 1890, how much railway track had been laid in India?

- a) 15,000 km
- b) 25,500 km
- c) 50,000 km
- d) 75,000 km

Answer: b) 25,500 km

Question 23. By 1946, what was the length of railway tracks in India?

- a) 265,000 km
- b) 565,000 km
- c) 765,000 km
- d) 865,000 km

Answer: c) 765,000 km

Question 24. In the Madras Presidency alone, how many trees were cut annually for railway sleepers in the 1850s?

- a) 15,000
- b) 25,000
- c) 35,000
- d) 45,000

Answer: c) 35,000

Question 25. How many sleepers were required for the Indus Valley Railway line between Multan and Sukkur?

- a) 200,000
- b) 400,000
- c) 600,000
- d) 800,000

Answer: c) 600,000

Question 26. How much wood fuel was estimated annually for locomotives according to Source B?

- a) 119,000 maunds
- b) 219,000 maunds
- c) 319,000 maunds
- d) 419,000 maunds

Answer: b) 219,000 maunds

Question 27. From which forests were most of the sleepers for the Indus Valley Railway expected to come?

- a) Assam forests
- b) Sind forests
- c) Nilgiri forests
- d) Madhya Pradesh forests

Answer: b) Sind forests

Question 28. Large areas of natural forests were cleared for which plantations?

- a) Tea, coffee, rubber
- b) Rice, wheat, maize
- c) Jute, cotton, sugar
- d) Coconut, arecanut, tobacco

Answer: a) Tea, coffee, rubber

Question 29. Who were given vast areas of forest land at cheap rates for plantation?

- a) Indian peasants
- b) European planters
- c) Zamindars
- d) Local tribals

Answer: b) European planters

Question 30. What happened to forests taken over for plantations?

- a) They were protected
- b) They were enclosed, cleared, and planted with tea/coffee
- c) They were converted into sanctuaries
- d) They were used for shipbuilding

Answer: b) They were enclosed, cleared, and planted with tea/coffee

The Rise of Commercial Forestry

1. Need for Forest Control:

- British needed forests mainly for ships and railways.
- They feared that local people's use and reckless felling by traders would destroy forests.

2. Role of Dietrich Brandis:

- British invited German expert Dietrich Brandis to advise on forest management.
- He became the first Inspector General of Forests in India.
- Brandis Emphasised:
 - a.** A proper system of forest management.

- b.** Training people in the science of conservation.
- c.** Legal framework to regulate forest use.

3. Measures Introduced:

- Rules were framed to regulate use of forest resources.
- Tree felling and grazing restricted to preserve timber.
- Punishments for those who cut trees without permission.
- Indian Forest Service established in 1864.
- Indian Forest Act passed in 1865 (later amended in 1878 & 1927).
- Imperial Forest Research Institute set up at Dehradun in 1906.

4. Scientific Forestry:

- Introduced as a new system of forest management.
- Natural forests with mixed trees were cut down.
- Replaced by plantations of a single tree species in straight rows.
- Forest officials:
 - a.** Surveyed forests and estimated areas.
 - b.** Made working plans to decide how much area to cut yearly.
 - c.** Planned replanting so the cycle of cutting could continue.
- Today, ecologists feel this system was not truly scientific, as it destroyed biodiversity.

5. Forest Acts:

- 1865 Indian Forest Act: First legal framework.
- 1878 Amendment: Forests classified into three categories:
 - a.** Reserved Forests – Best forests, strictest control, villagers barred from use.
 - b.** Protected Forests – Limited access.
 - c.** Village Forests – Villagers allowed for basic needs (fuel, house-building).

- 1927 Amendment: Strengthened forest laws further.

6. Key Exam Insights:

- Brandis → Inspector General, 1864.
- Indian Forest Service → 1864; Act → 1865; Research Institute → 1906.
- Scientific forestry → monoculture plantations replacing natural forests.
- 1878 Act → Reserved, Protected, Village Forests (Reserved = most important).

How were the Lives of People Affected?

1. Different Views of Forests:

- Villagers' view:
 - a.** Needed forests with mixed species to meet daily needs: fuel, fodder, leaves, fruits, etc.
- Forest Department's view:
 - a.** Wanted tall, straight, hardwood trees for ships and railways.
 - b.** Promoted teak and sal, while cutting other species.

2. Uses of Forest Products by Villagers:

- Food & Nutrition:
 - a.** Fruits and tubers – nutritious, especially before harvest.
- Medicine:
 - a.** Herbs used as traditional medicines.
- Agriculture:
 - a.** Wood used for yokes and ploughs.
- Other Essentials:
 - a.** Bamboo – fences, baskets, umbrellas.

- b.** Dried scooped-out gourd – used as portable water bottle.
- c.** Leaves – stitched into disposable plates & cups.
- d.** Siadi (Bauhinia vahlii) creeper – for ropes.
- e.** Semur (silk-cotton tree) bark – used to grate vegetables.
- f.** Mahua tree fruit – oil for cooking & lamps.

3. Impact of the Forest Act on Villagers:

- Forest Act imposed severe hardships:
 - a.** Daily activities made illegal – cutting wood, grazing cattle, collecting fruits/roots, hunting, fishing.
 - b.** Villagers were forced to steal wood, risking punishment.
 - c.** Forest guards exploited villagers, often demanding bribes.
 - d.** Women collecting fuelwood were especially worried.
 - e.** Police constables and forest guards also harassed people, demanding free food.

4. Key Exam Insights:

- Main Conflict: Villagers wanted diversity, but forest department promoted monocultures (teak, sal).
- Forest = Lifeline: Provided food, tools, medicine, utensils, fuel, ropes, plates, baskets.
- Forest Act Consequence: Turned villagers into criminals for their survival needs, leading to harassment, bribes, and hardships.
- Women's Burden: Women faced maximum difficulty as they depended on forests for fuelwood.

How did Forest Rules Affect Cultivation?

1. Shifting Cultivation – Traditional Practice:

- Known as swidden agriculture.
- Practiced in Asia, Africa, South America.
- Local names:
 - a. Southeast Asia → lading
 - b. Central America → milpa
 - c. Africa → chitemene / tavy
 - d. Sri Lanka → chena
 - e. India → dhya, penda, bewar, nevad, jhum, podu, khandad, kumri

2. Method of Shifting Cultivation:

- Forest patches cut and burnt in rotation.
- Seeds sown in ashes after first monsoon rains.
- Crops harvested by October–November.
- Plots cultivated for 2–3 years, then left fallow for 12–18 years for forest regeneration.
- Mixed crops grown:
 - a. Central India & Africa → millets
 - b. Brazil → manioc
 - c. Latin America → maize & beans

3. European Foresters' Objections:

- Regarded shifting cultivation as harmful for forests.
- Believed it prevented growth of railway timber.
- Burning forests posed danger of spreading flames, destroying valuable timber.

4. Administrative Problems:

- Shifting cultivation made it hard to calculate taxes.

5. Colonial Government Action:

- Shifting cultivation banned.
- Communities forcibly displaced from forests.
- Consequences:
 - a. Some people had to change occupations.
 - b. Some communities resisted through rebellions (big and small).

6. Key Exam Insights:

- Shifting cultivation = traditional, eco-friendly, diverse crop practice but colonial rulers saw it as destructive.
- Conflict: Villagers needed subsistence; British wanted timber, revenue, control.
- Impact: Loss of livelihood, displacement, cultural disruption, rebellions.

Who could Hunt?

1. Hunting Before Colonial Forest Laws:

- Forest dwellers depended on hunting deer, partridges, small animals for survival.
- This was a customary right before the laws.

2. Impact of Forest Laws:

- Customary hunting banned.
- People caught hunting were punished for poaching.
- This led to loss of livelihood and food sources for forest communities.

3. Hunting as a Sport under Colonial Rule:

- Hunting of big game (tigers, leopards, wolves) turned into a sport.
- Hunting had been part of royal culture in Mughal courts.

- But under the British, scale of hunting increased massively, causing near extinction of species.

4. British Justification for Hunting:

- British saw large animals as symbols of a wild, savage society.
- Claimed that killing “dangerous” animals would civilise India.
- Rewards given for killing: *Tigers, wolves, leopards (seen as threats to cultivators)*.

5. Alarming Numbers of Kills (1875–1925):

- Tigers → Over 80,000 killed.
- Leopards → Over 150,000 killed.
- Wolves → Over 200,000 killed.

6. Trophy Hunting:

- Tiger became a sporting trophy.
- Example cases:
 - a.** Maharaja of Sarguja → shot 1,157 tigers & 2,000 leopards (till 1957).
 - b.** George Yule (British administrator) → killed 400 tigers.

7. Forest Areas Reserved for Hunting:

- Certain forest zones were exclusively reserved for hunting.

8. Beginning of Conservation Awareness:

- Initially focus was on killing for rewards and trophies.
- Later, environmentalists and conservators argued that animal species should be protected, not exterminated.

9. Key Exam Takeaways:

- Conflict: Forest dwellers lost hunting rights, while colonial rulers promoted hunting as sport.
- Double standard: People punished for hunting small animals, but British/royals hunted large animals in thousands.
- Impact: Near extinction of species, ecological imbalance.
- Turning point: Rise of environmentalist thought later in colonial & post-colonial times.

New Trades, New Employments and New Services

1. New Opportunities in Forest Trade:

- After the forest department took control, some people benefited through new trades.
- Many communities left traditional occupations and turned to forest product trading.
- This shift happened globally, not just in India.

2. Example from Brazil (Global Context):

- Mundurucu peoples (Brazilian Amazon):
 - a.** Originally cultivated manioc on high ground.
 - b.** With rising demand for rubber (mid-19th century), they started collecting latex from wild rubber trees.
 - c.** Gradually moved to trading posts and became dependent on traders.

3. Forest Trade in Medieval India:

- Trade in forest products existed from the medieval period onwards.

- Adivasi communities traded in:
 - a.** Elephants, hides, horns, silk cocoons, ivory, bamboo, spices, fibres, grasses, gums, resins.
- Trade often carried out through nomadic communities like the Banjaras.

4. British Control over Trade:

- Under British rule, trade became highly regulated.
- Large European trading firms got exclusive rights to trade forest products in specific areas.
- Restrictions imposed on local people:
 - a.** Grazing restricted.
 - b.** Hunting restricted.

5. Impact on Nomadic and Pastoral Communities:

- Communities like Korava, Karacha, Yerukula (Madras Presidency) lost traditional livelihoods.
- Some were branded as 'criminal tribes'.
- Forced into factories, mines, plantations under government control.

6. Plantation Labour in Assam:

- Forest communities recruited for tea plantations in Assam.
 - a.** Men & women from Santhals, Oraons (Jharkhand), Gonds (Chhattisgarh).
- Faced low wages and very bad working conditions.
- Could not easily return home, remained trapped in plantation system.

7. Key Insights:

- Trade created new jobs but also caused loss of traditional livelihoods.
- British monopoly in trade → exploitation of resources + exclusion of locals.
- Nomadic/pastoral groups suffered most, many criminalised.
- Plantation system = harsh, exploitative labour conditions, especially in Assam.
- “New employment” ≠ better living standards.

New words

- Scientific forestry – A system of cutting trees controlled by the forest department, in which old trees are cut and new ones planted.

Source C: The Baigas of Central India

1. Who are Baigas?

- A forest community living in Central India.

2. Year & Event:

- In 1892, their practice of shifting cultivation was banned by the government.

3. Petition to the Government (1892):

- Complained of starvation: no foodgrain in possession.
- Only wealth = their axe.
- No clothes, forced to spend cold nights by the fireside.
- Claimed they were “dying for want of food”.
- Could not move elsewhere → bound to their land.

4. Grievances Highlighted:

- Asked: "What fault have we done?" → showing innocence & injustice.
- Prisoners in jail were better fed than Baigas.
- Cultivators of grass kept their holdings, but forest cultivators like Baigas lost their rights.
- Asserted their historical rights: "We have lived here for generations past."

5. Key Insight:

- Shows the hardship, loss of livelihood, and neglect faced by Adivasi communities when traditional cultivation was banned.

Source D: Rubber Extraction in Putumayo (Amazon Region)

1. Location & Company:

- Rubber extraction in Putumayo region (Amazon).
- Run by the Peruvian Rubber Company with British & Peruvian interests.

2. Forced Labour of Huitotos:

- Rubber collection relied on forced labour of local Indians (Huitotos).

3. Time Period & Output:

- 1900–1912 → 4000 tons of rubber extracted.
- Linked to decrease of ~30,000 Indians due to:
 - a.** Torture
 - b.** Disease
 - c.** Flight (escaping oppression).

4. Conditions of Work:

- Described as horrific worldwide in plantations.

5. Example of Brutality:

- Manager summoned hundreds of Indians to the station.
- He used carbine (gun) & machete to massacre them.
- 150 corpses (men, women, children) left on ground.
- Survivors were piled with the dead and burned alive.
- Manager's words: "I want to exterminate all the Indians who do not obey my orders about the rubber."

6. Key Insight:

- Reflects extreme violence, exploitation, and dehumanisation under colonial economic interests.
- Rubber trade = profits for Europeans but genocide for indigenous peoples.

7. Overall Takeaways:

- Source C (India): Shows economic exploitation & neglect → traditional rights denied.
- Source D (Amazon): Shows violent coercion & genocide → profits built on extreme oppression.
- Both highlight that colonial forest policies & global plantation systems caused misery instead of development for indigenous communities.

MCQs on NCERT History Class 9 Chapter 4 Topic

– The Rise of Commercial Forestry

Here are the top exam-oriented MCQ-type questions on “*The Rise of Commercial Forestry*” that you should prepare for your CBSE or state board exams:

Question 1. Why did the British need forests in India?

- a) For making furniture
- b) For building ships and railways
- c) For exporting timber to Europe
- d) For fuel supply

Answer: b) For building ships and railways

Question 2. Who was invited by the British as the first Inspector General of Forests in India?

- a) George Yule
- b) Verrier Elwin
- c) Dietrich Brandis
- d) Robert Clive

Answer: c) Dietrich Brandis

Question 3. In which year was the Indian Forest Service set up?

- a) 1857
- b) 1864
- c) 1878
- d) 1906

Answer: b) 1864

Question 4. The Indian Forest Act was first passed in which year?

- a) 1865
- b) 1878
- c) 1906
- d) 1927

Answer: a) 1865

Question 5. Where was the Imperial Forest Research Institute established in 1906?

- a) Shimla
- b) Dehradun
- c) Nagpur
- d) Kolkata

Answer: b) Dehradun

Question 6. What was the method of replacing natural forests with one type of tree in straight rows called?

- a) Plantation
- b) Shifting cultivation
- c) Afforestation
- d) Community forestry

Answer: a) Plantation

Question 7. How many categories of forests were introduced under the Forest Act of 1878?

- a) Two
- b) Three
- c) Four
- d) Five

Answer: b) Three

Question 8. Which were considered the best forests under the 1878 Forest Act?

- a) Protected forests
- b) Reserved forests
- c) Village forests
- d) Community forests

Answer: b) Reserved forests

Question 9. Villagers wanted forests with –

- a) Tall and straight trees
- b) Only teak and sal
- c) Mixture of species
- d) Bamboo plantations

Answer: c) Mixture of species

Question 10. Which trees were especially promoted by the forest department?

- a) Mango and neem
- b) Bamboo and coconut
- c) Teak and sal
- d) Peepal and banyan

Answer: c) Teak and sal

Question 11. The thorny bark of the semur (silk-cotton) tree was used for –

- a) Making ropes
- b) Grating vegetables
- c) Lighting lamps
- d) Stitching leaves

Answer: b) Grating vegetables

Question 12. Which product of the mahua tree was used by villagers?

- a) Rope
- b) Oil
- c) Baskets
- d) Medicines

Answer: b) Oil

Question 13. Shifting cultivation is also known as –

- a) Plantation farming
- b) Swidden agriculture
- c) Terrace farming
- d) Dry farming

Answer: b) Swidden agriculture

Question 14. What is shifting cultivation called in Sri Lanka?

- a) Milpa
- b) Chena
- c) Bewar
- d) Tavy

Answer: b) Chena

Question 15. How many years were shifting cultivation plots usually left fallow?

- a) 2–5 years
- b) 6–10 years
- c) 12–18 years
- d) 20–25 years

Answer: c) 12–18 years

Question 16. Why did the British ban shifting cultivation?

- a) It wasted water
- b) It destroyed timber and made tax collection difficult
- c) It was unhealthy
- d) It used too much land

Answer: b) It destroyed timber and made tax collection difficult

Question 17. Before the Forest Acts, many forest dwellers survived by –

- a) Hunting
- b) Rubber tapping
- c) Mining
- d) Fishing only

Answer: a) Hunting

Question 18. How many tigers were killed for rewards between 1875–1925?

- a) 50,000
- b) 80,000
- c) 1,00,000
- d) 1,57,000

Answer: b) 80,000

Question 19. Who killed 400 tigers during colonial rule?

- a) Maharaja of Sarguja
- b) Dietrich Brandis
- c) George Yule
- d) Lord Dalhousie

Answer: c) George Yule

Question 20. The Maharaja of Sarguja shot –

- a) 1,157 tigers and 2,000 leopards
- b) 800 tigers and 1,500 leopards
- c) 2,000 tigers and 1,157 leopards
- d) 500 tigers and 1,000 leopards

Answer: a) 1,157 tigers and 2,000 leopards

Question 21. Which community in Brazil collected latex from wild rubber trees?

- a) Mundurucu
- b) Banjaras
- c) Korava
- d) Yerukula

Answer: a) Mundurucu

Question 22. Which nomadic community in India traded elephants, hides, and silk cocoons?

- a) Gonds
- b) Banjaras
- c) Korava
- d) Karacha

Answer: b) Banjaras

Question 23. Which communities in Madras Presidency lost their livelihoods due to forest restrictions?

- a) Mundurucu
- b) Korava, Karacha, Yerukula
- c) Oraons and Santhals
- d) Baigas

Answer: b) Korava, Karacha, Yerukula

Question 24. Where were Santhals, Oraons, and Gonds recruited for plantation work?

- a) Assam tea plantations
- b) Bengal indigo plantations

- c) Deccan cotton farms
- d) Nilgiri coffee plantations

Answer: a) Assam tea plantations

Question 25. Which forest community of Central India petitioned the government in 1892?

- a) Korava
- b) Baigas
- c) Mundurucu
- d) Oraons

Answer: b) Baigas

Question 26. What was the main grievance of the Baigas after shifting cultivation was stopped?

- a) Lack of clothing
- b) Starvation due to no foodgrain
- c) Excessive taxes
- d) Loss of houses

Answer: b) Starvation due to no foodgrain

Question 27. In the Putumayo region, which local group was forced into rubber extraction?

- a) Oraons
- b) Huitotos
- c) Banjaras
- d) Gonds

Answer: b) Huitotos

Question 28. Between 1900–1912, how many Indians (Huitotos) died in Putumayo due to rubber extraction conditions?

- a) 10,000
- b) 20,000
- c) 30,000
- d) 50,000

Answer: c) 30,000

Rebellion in the Forest

1. Reason for Rebellions:

- Forest communities in India and across the world rebelled against the changes imposed on them by the colonial government (such as restrictions on forest use, exploitation, and loss of livelihood).

2. Famous Tribal Leaders Who Led Rebellions in India:

- Siddhu and Kanu – led the Santhal rebellion in the Santhal Parganas.
- Birsa Munda – led a movement in Chhotanagpur (Munda Rebellion).
- Alluri Sitarama Raju – led the tribal uprising in Andhra Pradesh.

3. Cultural Memory of Leaders:

- These leaders are still remembered in songs and stories by the people for their resistance against the British.

4. Important Case Study Mentioned:

- The text introduces one detailed example: the Bastar Rebellion of 1910.
- Took place in the kingdom of Bastar (present-day Chhattisgarh region).

The People of Bastar

1. Geographical Location of Bastar:

- Bastar is in the southernmost part of Chhattisgarh.
- Borders: Andhra Pradesh, Orissa (Odisha), and Maharashtra.
- Central Bastar: located on a plateau.
- To the north → Chhattisgarh plain.
- To the south → Godavari plain.
- The Indrawati River flows east to west across Bastar.

2. Communities of Bastar:

- Major tribes/communities:
 - a.** Maria Gonds
 - b.** Muria Gonds
 - c.** Dhurwas
 - d.** Bhatras
 - e.** Halbas
- They speak different languages but share common customs and beliefs.

3. Religious and Cultural Beliefs:

- People believed each village was given land by the Earth.
- In return, they took care of the Earth by offering gifts during agricultural festivals.
- They also showed respect to spirits of rivers, forests, and mountains.

4. Management of Natural Resources:

- Each village knew its boundaries and managed natural resources within it.
- To collect wood from another village's forest → outsiders paid a small fee called: Devsari / Dand / Man.
- Some villages appointed watchmen to protect forests.
 - a. Each household contributed grain to pay the watchmen.

5. Social Practices:

- Annual Big Hunt:
 - a. Headmen of different villages in a pargana (cluster of villages) met.
 - b. They discussed important issues, including management of forests.

The Fears of the People

1. Causes of People's Fear & Anger:

- In 1905, colonial government proposed to reserve two-thirds of forests.
- Banned traditional activities:
 - a. Shifting cultivation
 - b. Hunting
 - c. Collection of forest produce
- Villagers forced into free labour for forest department → cutting trees, transporting timber, protecting from fire.
 - a. Such settlements became known as "Forest Villages".
- Other villages faced displacement without notice or compensation.

- Long-term grievances:
 - a.** Increased land rents.
 - b.** Frequent demands of free labour and goods by colonial officials.
- Terrible famines:
 - a.** 899–1900
 - b.** 1907–1908
- Forest reservation became the “last straw” for villagers.

2. Spread of Rebellion:

- Villagers discussed issues in:
 - a.** Village councils
 - b.** Bazaars
 - c.** Festivals
 - d.** Meetings of headmen and priests.
- Initiative first taken by Dhurwas of Kanger forest (where reservation started).
- No single leader, but Gunda Dhur of village Nethanar emerged as an important figure.
- Symbols of Rebellion (Messages Passed):
 - a.** Mango boughs
 - b.** Lump of earth
 - c.** Chillies
 - d.** Arrows
- Each village contributed to rebellion expenses.

3. Events of the 1910 Bastar Rebellion:

- Bazaars were looted.
- Houses of officials and traders were burnt and robbed.
- Schools and police stations attacked.
- Grain redistributed among people.
- Targets: those associated with colonial state and oppressive laws.

- Missionary William Ward wrote: "From all directions came streaming into Jagdalpur, police, merchants, forest peons, schoolmasters and immigrants."

4. Suppression by the British:

- British sent troops to crush rebellion.
- Adivasi leaders tried to negotiate, but were attacked.
- Villages flogged and punished.
- Many villagers fled to jungles.
- Duration: Took three months (Feb–May 1910) for British to regain control.
- Gunda Dhur was never captured.

5. Outcome of the Rebellion:

- Major victory for rebels:
 - a. Forest reservation work was temporarily suspended.
 - b. Area to be reserved was reduced to half of what was planned before 1910.

6. Aftermath & Continuity after Independence:

- Even after 1947, practice of keeping people out of forests and reserving them for industrial use continued.
- In the 1970s, World Bank proposed: Replace 4,600 hectares of natural sal forests with tropical pine for paper industry.
- Stopped after protests by local environmentalists.

Source E: Account from DeBrett (Political Agent, 1910)

- Leader of the rebels: Bhondia Majhi collected 400 men.
- Religious rituals: Goats were sacrificed before starting the rebellion.

- Targets of attack:
 - a.** Burnt Marenga school, police post, lines, and pound at Keslur.
 - b.** Burnt Tokapal (Rajur) school.
 - c.** Detached a group to burn Karanji school.
- Capture of police officials:
 - a.** Captured a head constable and four constables of the State reserve police.
 - b.** Rebels did not maltreat them but took away their weapons and released them.
- Strategic moves:
 - a.** One group blocked Koer river passage in case the Dewan took that route.
 - b.** The rest stopped the main road from Bijapur at Dilmilli.
- Other rebel leaders: Buddhu Majhi and Harchand Naik led the main body.

Source F: Oral Traditions & Elders' Memories

1. Podiyami Ganga's account (based on his father Podiyami Tokeli):

- Cause: British started **taking land** while the **Raja ignored** the situation.
- People resisted: Supporters of the Raja gathered and started a **war against the British**.
- Consequences:
 - Staunch supporters died, others were **whipped**.
 - Rebels were **tied to horses and dragged** by the British.
- Participation: 2–3 people from **every village** joined at Jagdalpur.
- Examples of rebels: *Gargideva, Michkola, Dole, Adrabundi, Vadapandu, Unga, etc.*

2. Chendru's account (elder from Nandrasa):

- People's leaders: Mille Mudaal (Palem), Soyekal Dhurwa (Nandrasa), Pandwa Majhi.
- Mass participation: People from every **pargana camped in Alnar Tarai**.
- British attack: Army **paltan surrounded** the people suddenly at night.
- Beliefs: Gunda Dhur had "**flying powers**" and escaped.
- Rebel disadvantage: With **bows and arrows** against British guns, they suffered.
- Outcome: Many rebels **hid in shrubs and escaped**, but many died.

MCQs on NCERT History Class 9 Chapter 4 Topic – Rebellion in the Forest

Here are the top exam-oriented MCQ-type questions on "*Rebellion in the Forest*" that you should prepare for your CBSE or state board exams:

Question 1. In which year did the Bastar rebellion against the British take place?

- a) 1905
- b) 1910
- c) 1915
- d) 1920

Answer: b) 1910

Question 2. Who among the following was an important figure in the Bastar rebellion?

- a) Birsa Munda
- b) Gunda Dhur
- c) Siddhu Murmu
- d) Alluri Sitarama Raju

Answer: b) Gunda Dhur

Question 3. The Bastar region is located in the southernmost part of which present-day state?

- a) Maharashtra
- b) Odisha
- c) Chhattisgarh
- d) Andhra Pradesh

Answer: c) Chhattisgarh

Question 4. Which river flows across Bastar from east to west?

- a) Godavari
- b) Indrawati
- c) Narmada
- d) Mahanadi

Answer: b) Indrawati

Question 5. The communities like Maria and Muria Gonds, Dhurwas, Bhatras, and Halbas lived in which region?

- a) Santhal Parganas
- b) Chhotanagpur
- c) Bastar
- d) Andhra Pradesh

Answer: c) Bastar

Question 6. What was the fee called when villagers wanted to take wood from another village's forest?

- a) Lagaan
- b) Devsari / Dand / Man
- c) Tehbazari
- d) Bhent

Answer: b) Devsari / Dand / Man

Question 7. In which year did the colonial government propose to reserve two-thirds of Bastar forests?

- a) 1900
- b) 1905
- c) 1907
- d) 1911

Answer: b) 1905

Question 8. What were the villages called where people had to work free for the forest department?

- a) Ryotwari villages
- b) Permanent villages
- c) Forest villages
- d) Zamindari villages

Answer: c) Forest villages

Question 9. Which terrible famines worsened the condition of Bastar villagers?

- a) 1885-1886 and 1890-1891
- b) 1899-1900 and 1907-1908
- c) 1910-1911 and 1915-1916
- d) 1920-1921 and 1925-1926

Answer: b) 1899-1900 and 1907-1908

Question 10. What symbols circulated between Bastar villages to invite people to rebel?

- a) Rice and turmeric
- b) Mango boughs, lump of earth, chillies and arrows
- c) Flowers and coins
- d) Salt and sugar

Answer: b) Mango boughs, lump of earth, chillies and arrows

Question 11. Which town saw police, merchants, forest peons, and immigrants fleeing during the rebellion?

- a) Bijapur
- b) Jagdalpur
- c) Tokapal
- d) Alnar

Answer: b) Jagdalpur

Question 12. Who observed and recorded the Bastar rebellion as a missionary?

- a) William Ward
- b) DeBrett
- c) Susobhan Sarkar
- d) James Mill

Answer: a) William Ward

Question 13. How long did it take for the British to regain control during the Bastar rebellion?

- a) One month
- b) Two months
- c) Three months
- d) Six months

Answer: c) Three months

Question 14. Which rebel leader was never captured by the British?

- a) Gunda Dhur
- b) Bhondia Majhi
- c) Mille Mudaal
- d) Soyekal Dhurwa

Answer: a) Gunda Dhur

Question 15. After the rebellion, what happened to the forest reservation plan?

- a) It was fully implemented
- b) Suspended temporarily and reduced to half

- c) Expanded further
- d) Abandoned forever

Answer: b) Suspended temporarily and reduced to half

Question 16. In the 1970s, which international organisation proposed replacing Bastar's sal forests with tropical pine?

- a) IMF
- b) United Nations
- c) World Bank
- d) Asian Development Bank

Answer: c) World Bank

Question 17. The tropical pine plantations were proposed for which industry?

- a) Textile
- b) Ship-building
- c) Paper industry
- d) Iron and steel

Answer: c) Paper industry

Question 18. Who among the following led rebels to burn schools and police posts in 1910? (Source E)

- a) Podiyami Tokeli
- b) Bhondia Majhi
- c) Soyekal Dhurwa
- d) Mille Mudaal

Answer: b) Bhondia Majhi

Question 19. According to oral traditions, which rebel leader was believed to have “flying powers”? (Source F)

- a) Soyekal Dhurwa
- b) Gunda Dhur
- c) Pandwa Majhi
- d) Mille Mudaal

Answer: b) Gunda Dhur

Question 20. The rebellion in Bastar was mainly a struggle against:

- a) Indian landlords
- b) British colonial forest policies
- c) Local kings
- d) Zamindars of Bengal

Answer: b) British colonial forest policies

Forest Transformations in Java

- **Present status:** Java is now famous as a rice-producing island of Indonesia.
- **Past condition:** Once, Java was mostly covered with forests.
- **Colonial power:** Indonesia was under the Dutch colonial rule.
- **Forest laws:** The Dutch introduced forest control laws, similar to those in British India.
- **Beginning of forest management:** Java was the place where the Dutch started forest management.

- **Reason for forest exploitation:** Like the British, the Dutch wanted timber from Java to build ships.
- **Population in 1600:** Estimated population of Java was 3.4 million.
- **Settlements:**
 - a. Many villages in fertile plains.
 - b. Also, many communities in mountains practising shifting cultivation.

The Woodcutters of Java

- **Community:** The Kalangs of Java were a skilled community of forest cutters and shifting cultivators.
- **Importance of Kalangs:**
 - a. They were so valuable that in 1755, when the Mataram kingdom of Java split, about 6,000 Kalang families were equally divided between the two kingdoms.
 - b. Their expertise was crucial for harvesting teak and for building palaces of kings.
- **Dutch control:** In the 18th century, the Dutch gained control over the forests and tried to force the Kalangs to work under them.
- Resistance of Kalangs:
 - a. In 1770, the Kalangs rebelled by attacking a Dutch fort at Joana.
 - b. The uprising was eventually suppressed by the Dutch.
- **Kalangs =** skilled forest cutters & shifting cultivators (core identity).

Dutch Scientific Forestry

1. Dutch Forest Laws in Java:

- In the 19th century, the Dutch enacted forest laws in Java to control territory and forests, not just people.
- Villagers' access to forests was restricted.

- Wood could be cut only for specific purposes (e.g., making river boats, constructing houses).
- Cutting was allowed only from selected forests under strict supervision.
- Villagers were punished for:
 - a. Grazing cattle in young forest stands.
 - b. Transporting wood without a permit.
 - c. Travelling on forest roads with horse carts or cattle.

2. Shipbuilding and Railways Demand:

- Similar to India, shipbuilding and railways increased the need for forest management.
- A forest service was introduced in Java.
- By 1882, 280,000 sleepers were exported from Java alone.

3. Labour Requirement & Exploitation:

- **Large-scale forestry required labour for:**
 - a. Cutting trees.
 - b. Transporting logs.
 - c. Preparing sleepers.

4. Blandongdiensten System

- The Dutch first imposed rents on cultivated forest land.
- Some villages were exempted from rent if they provided:
 - a. Free labour.
 - b. Buffaloes for cutting and transporting timber.
- This system was called Blandongdiensten.
- Later, instead of rent exemption:
 - a. Villagers were given small wages.
 - b. But their right to cultivate forest land was restricted.

5. Key Exam Hints:

- Dutch forest laws = stricter than India's (territory + people control).
- Punishments = for grazing, wood transport, road usage without permission.
- 1882 fact = 280,000 sleepers exported.
- Blandongdiensten system = free labour + buffaloes in return for rent exemption → later replaced by small wages, but cultivation rights restricted.

Samin's Challenge

1. Origin of the Challenge:

- Around 1890, Surontiko Samin of Randublatung village (a teak forest village in Java) questioned state ownership of forests.
- His argument: The state had not created wind, water, earth, or wood, so it could not claim ownership of them.

2. Spread of the Movement:

- The challenge turned into a widespread movement.
- Samin's sons-in-law helped in organising the movement.
- By 1907, nearly 3,000 families were following Samin's ideas.

3. Forms of Protest:

- Non-violent resistance methods were used by Saminists:
 - a. Lying down on their land when Dutch came to survey it.
 - b. Refusing to pay taxes or fines.
 - c. Refusing to perform compulsory labour.

4. Key Exam Hints:

- Year to remember → 1890 (Samin's questioning), 1907 (3,000 families joined).
- Village → Randublatung (teak forest village).
- Protest nature → non-violent & Gandhian-like methods (lying on land, refusing taxes/labour).
- Leadership → Surontiko Samin + supported by sons-in-law.

War and Deforestation

1. Impact of World Wars on Forests:

- Both the First World War (1914–1918) and the Second World War (1939–1945) had a major impact on forests.
- In India, forest working plans were abandoned, and the forest department cut trees freely to meet British war needs.

2. Dutch and Japanese Actions in Java:

- Just before the Japanese occupation of Java, the Dutch adopted a 'scorched earth policy':
 - a.** Destroyed sawmills.
 - b.** Burnt huge piles of giant teak logs to prevent Japanese access.
- After occupation, the Japanese exploited forests recklessly for their war industries.
- They also forced forest villagers to cut down trees.

3. Villagers' Role During the War:

- Many villagers took the opportunity to expand cultivation in forest areas when control was weak.

4. Post-War Challenges:

- After the war, it became difficult for the Indonesian forest service to regain this cultivated land.
- Similar to India, the conflict grew between:
 - a.** People's need for agricultural land.
 - b.** Forest department's desire to control and exclude people.

5. Key Exam Hints:

- India → unrestricted tree felling for British war needs.
- Java (Dutch) → scorched earth policy: destroyed sawmills & burnt teak.
- Japanese → reckless exploitation + forced villagers' labour.
- Villagers → expanded cultivation during wartime.
- Post-war → conflict over land between people & forest department.

New Developments in Forestry

1. Shift in Forestry Policies (Since 1980s):

- Governments across Asia and Africa realised that scientific forestry and keeping forest communities away caused many conflicts.
- Focus shifted from timber collection → to forest conservation.

2. Role of Local Communities:

- Governments recognised that forest dwellers must be involved in conservation.
- India's examples: From Mizoram to Kerala, dense forests survived because villages protected them.

- Forests preserved in sacred groves:
 - a. Sarnas
 - b. Devarakudu
 - c. Kan
 - d. Rai

3. Community Forest Protection Practices:

- Some villages patrol forests themselves, instead of depending on forest guards.
- Households take turns to protect the forests.

4. Emerging New Approaches:

- Local communities + environmentalists are now working on different forms of forest management.

5. Key Exam Hints:

- 1980s → shift from timber extraction to conservation.
- Villagers' role: protecting forests through sacred groves & patrolling.
- Involvement of people + environmentalists → new models of management.

Source G

- Speaker: Dirk van Hogendorp, an official of the United East India Company in colonial Java.
- Audience: Addressed to the people of Batavia (modern Jakarta).

1. Concerns Highlighted:

- Dutch fleets destroyed, trade declining, and navigation collapsing.

- Dutch were forced to purchase timber and ship-building materials from northern powers at high costs.

2. Importance of Java's Forests:

- Claimed Java's forests had enough timber to build:
 - a.** A strong navy
 - b.** Numerous merchant ships
- Stated that forests of Java could be inexhaustible if managed properly.

3. Underlying Message:

- Urged for better forest management and care.
- Suggested that forests were a valuable natural resource for Dutch economic and military power.

MCQs on NCERT History Class 9 Chapter 4 Topic

– Forest Transformations in Java

Here are the top exam-oriented MCQ-type questions on "*Forest Transformations in Java*" that you should prepare for your CBSE or state board exams:

Question 1. Java is now famous as:

- a) Tea-producing island
- b) Cotton-producing island
- c) Rice-producing island
- d) Coffee-producing island

Answer: c) Rice-producing island

Question 2. Which European colonial power controlled Indonesia?

- a) Portuguese
- b) Dutch
- c) French
- d) British

Answer: b) Dutch

Question 3. Why did the Dutch want timber from Java?

- a) For building houses
- b) For building ships
- c) For making furniture
- d) For export to India

Answer: b) For building ships

Question 4. In 1600, the estimated population of Java was:

- a) 1.4 million
- b) 2.4 million
- c) 3.4 million
- d) 4.4 million

Answer: c) 3.4 million

Question 5. Which community of Java were skilled forest cutters and shifting cultivators?

- a) Muria Gonds
- b) Kalangs

- c) Halbas
- d) Dhurwas

Answer: b) Kalangs

Question 6. In which year was the Mataram kingdom of Java split?

- a) 1700
- b) 1725
- c) 1755
- d) 1770

Answer: c) 1755

Question 7. How many Kalang families were divided between the two kingdoms of Java?

- a) 2,000
- b) 4,000
- c) 6,000
- d) 8,000

Answer: c) 6,000

Question 8. In 1770, the Kalangs resisted Dutch control by attacking which fort?

- a) Batavia
- b) Joana
- c) Surabaya
- d) Yogyakarta

Answer: b) Joana

Question 9. In the 19th century, the Dutch introduced forest laws in Java mainly to:

- a) Control timber extraction
- b) Promote shifting cultivation
- c) Expand rice production
- d) Encourage trade with India

Answer: a) Control timber extraction

Question 10. Under Dutch forest laws, wood could only be cut for:

- a) Export purposes
- b) Ship-building and railway
- c) River boats and house construction
- d) Sacred groves

Answer: c) River boats and house construction

Question 11. Villagers in Java were punished for:

- a) Cutting bamboo
- b) Travelling with horse carts on forest roads
- c) Using forests for hunting
- d) Selling rice in the market

Answer: b) Travelling with horse carts on forest roads

Question 12. In which year were 280,000 sleepers exported from Java?

- a) 1860
- b) 1870
- c) 1882
- d) 1890

Answer: c) 1882

Question 13. What was the Dutch system of forced free labour by forest villagers called?

- a) Ryotwari
- b) Zamindari
- c) Blandongdiensten system
- d) Permanent Settlement

Answer: c) Blandongdiensten system

Question 14. Under the blandongdiensten system, villagers were:

- a) Exempted from rent if they provided labour
- b) Given large land grants
- c) Allowed to freely graze cattle
- d) Permitted to sell timber in markets

Answer: a) Exempted from rent if they provided labour

Question 15. Who started questioning Dutch state ownership of forests around 1890?

- a) Gunda Dhur
- b) Surontiko Samin
- c) Bhondia Majhi
- d) Alluri Sitarama Raju

Answer: b) Surontiko Samin

Question 16. Surontiko Samin belonged to which village?

- a) Bastar
- b) Randublatung
- c) Batavia
- d) Mizoram

Answer: b) Randublatung

Question 17. By 1907, how many families were following Samin's ideas?

- a) 1,000
- b) 2,000
- c) 3,000
- d) 4,000

Answer: c) 3,000

Question 18. Which of the following was NOT a method of protest used by the Saminists?

- a) Lying down on land during surveys
- b) Refusing to pay taxes
- c) Burning police stations
- d) Refusing to perform labour

Answer: c) Burning police stations

Question 19. During WWI and WWII, forest trees were cut freely mainly for:

- a) Local consumption
- b) British war needs
- c) Expansion of cultivation
- d) Selling to China

Answer: b) British war needs

Question 20. What was the 'scorched earth policy' followed by the Dutch in Java?

- a) Burning of villages
- b) Burning sawmills and teak logs to stop Japanese use
- c) Destroying farmlands
- d) Flooding forests deliberately

Answer: b) Burning sawmills and teak logs to stop Japanese use

Question 21. Which country occupied Java during WWII?

- a) Britain
- b) France
- c) Japan
- d) Portugal

Answer: c) Japan

Question 22. After WWII, what conflict arose in Java similar to India?

- a) Farmers vs. merchants
- b) People's need for agricultural land vs. forest department's control
- c) British vs. Dutch
- d) Traders vs. soldiers

Answer: b) People's need for agricultural land vs. forest department's control

Question 23. Since which decade did governments across Asia and Africa begin to shift focus to conservation?

- a) 1950s
- b) 1960s
- c) 1970s
- d) 1980s

Answer: d) 1980s

Question 24. In India, dense forests have survived mainly because of:

- a) Scientific forestry
- b) Sacred groves protected by villages
- c) British forest laws
- d) Government plantations

Answer: b) Sacred groves protected by villages

Question 25. What were sacred groves called in different parts of India?

- a) Vana and Upvanas
- b) Sarnas, devarakudu, kan, rai
- c) Pahadi and Jangal
- d) Bhoomi and Jalvan

Answer: b) Sarnas, devarakudu, kan, rai

Question 26. Who wrote about the richness of Java's forests in colonial times?

- a) William Ward
- b) Dirk van Hogendorp
- c) Susobhan Sarkar
- d) James Mill

Answer: b) Dirk van Hogendorp

Question 27. According to Dirk van Hogendorp, Java's forests could:

- a) Feed the entire population
- b) Build a navy and merchant ships
- c) End famine in Asia
- d) Supply cotton for Europe

Answer: b) Build a navy and merchant ships

Question 28. What belief did Dirk van Hogendorp express about Java's forests?

- a) They were finite and weak
- b) They would vanish soon

- c) They were inexhaustible under good care and management
- d) They could only supply timber for 50 years

Answer: c) They were inexhaustible under good care and management

Thank You

