Short Answer Questions

Q. 1. Write the variety of activities of the tribal people in different parts of India.

Ans. Some of the tribal people were jhum cultivators while some were hunters and gatherers. Some of them herded animals and some took to settled cultivation.

Q. 2. What is jhum cultivation?

- **Ans. (i)** Jhum cultivation or shifting cultivation was done on small patches of land, mostly in forests.
- (ii) Once the crop was ready and harvested, they left the field fallow for several years and moved to another field.

Q. 3. Write the names of pastoralists who are found in different parts of India.

- **Ans.** (i) The Van Gujjars of the Punjab hills.
- (ii) The Labadis of Andhra Pradesh.
- (iii) The Gaddis of Kulu.
- (iv) The Bakarwals of Kashmir

Q. 4. What do reserved forests refer to?

- **Ans. (i)** The British took control over all forests and declared them as state property. Some forests were classified as 'Reserved Forests'.
- (ii) In reserved forests, those crops were grown which the British wanted like the timber.
- (iii) In these forests, people were not allowed to move freely, practise jhum cultivation, collect fruits or hunt animals.

Q. 5. What was the impact of forest laws?

- **Ans.** (i) Many tribal groups reacted against the colonial forest laws.
- (ii) They disobeyed the new rules and continued with practices that were declared illegal and at times rose in open rebellion.

Q. 6. Why were the traders and moneylenders coming to forests more often?

- **Ans. (i)** The traders and moneylenders came to forest more often, because they wanted to buy forest produce by offering cash loans and asking them to work for wages.
- (ii) Traders came around to buy things at a cheap rate and sold them at high price.