

Hots (Higher Order Thinking Skills)

Q. 1. Read the following extract and answer the question that follow:

“We must starve for food”

In 1823 the Company government in India received a petition from 12,000 weavers stating:

Our ancestors and we used to receive advances from the Company and maintain ourselves and our respective families by weaving Company’s superior assortments. Owing to our misfortune, the aurangs have been abolished ever since because of which we and our families are distressed for want of the means of livelihood. We are weavers and do not know any other business. We must starve for food, if the Board of Trade do not cast a look of kindness towards us and give orders for clothes.

(i) Who wrote the above petition and to whom? What does it highlight?

Ans. (i) Weavers wrote the petition to the Company government. It highlights the pitiable condition of the weavers. As the company had abolished aurangs (warehouses), weavers had to starve. The situation deteriorated because they didn’t know any other Business and were destined to die for want of food if the Company did not intervene timely.